COMICS BUYER'S GUIDE

#1284
June 26, 1998
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Maggie Thompson interviews Scott Adams – *See page 26*

PLUS: Garfield turns 20!

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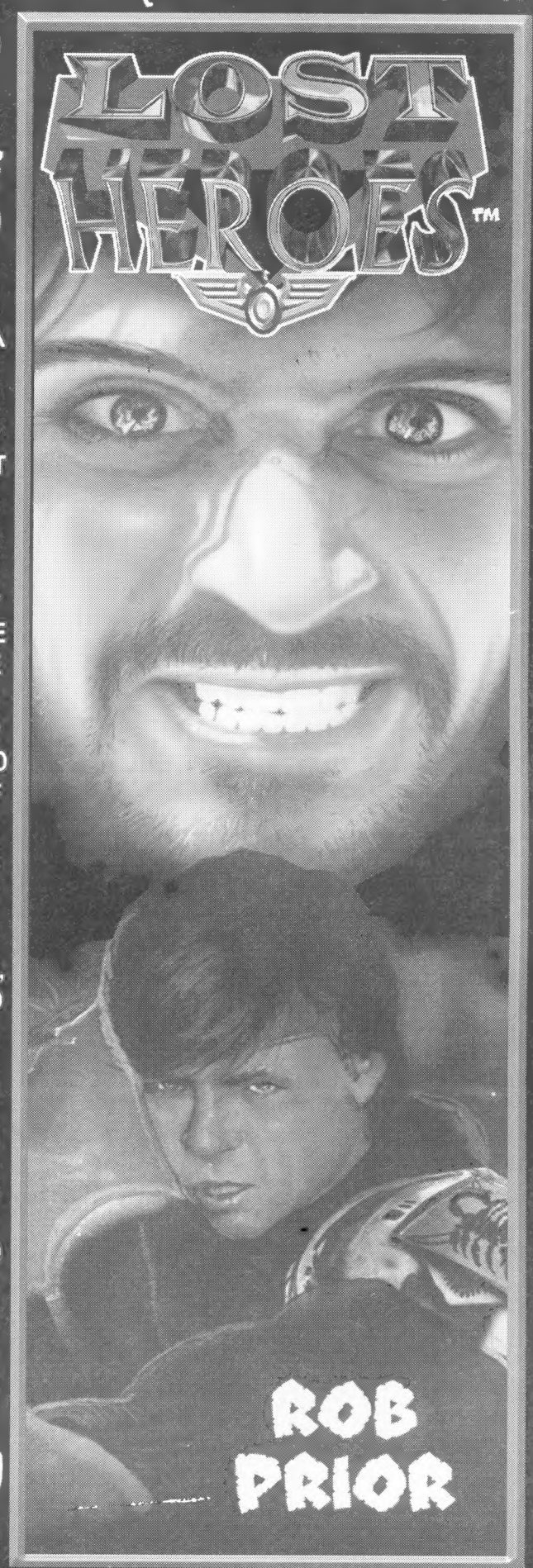

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This week in CBG

On the cover:

Scott Adams' cubicle-dweller is seen in many business environments around the world in a variety of media. How did *Dilbert* go from a daily strip to a mountain of licensed goods?

Also, while covering comic strips (and heavily licensed properties) this week, we celebrate with R.C. Harvey on Page 28 *Garfield*'s 20th anniversary.

And, on Page 44, we congratulate *Brenda Starr* creator Dale Messick, recent recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Cartoonists Society.

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ASSIGNMENT: COMICS
by Michael Dean

How should retailers handle an obscenity complaint?

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Black and white and read all over

Well, at least it *used* to be a newspaper. Would the current generation even get the old riddle?

Some daily comic strips are being offered in four-color format these days — at the same time as many of the finest art in comic strips (aggressively spotted blacks, detailed backgrounds) has become almost impossible to find.

I confess that the first comics I recall were comic books, not strips. I didn't discover the pleasures of the comic strip till I was slightly older. My family took the *New York Star* in 1948 (when I was 6), because Walt Kelly was the cartoonist in charge — and I do recall reading *Pogo* there, so I was 6 when I first took a look at the funny stuff hiding in the middle of pages of small type. And we took the *New York Post Home News* later, when Kelly's work moved to that venue. It was around that time that I must have read Stan MacGovern's *Silly Milly*, an odd strip by any standards, one that stood out from the rest by means of the strange art style.

It was also around that time that I must have first seen *Prince Valiant*, and I recall incorporating him into games — but it wasn't until I was in 5th or 6th grade that I got into the habit of reading the daily papers' strips as they came in — and the Pittsburgh Press didn't carry *Valiant*. I read *Gordo* and *Blondie* and *Nancy* (how could you *not* read *Nancy*?) and *Li'l Abner* and *Long Sam* and *Dick Tracy* — and eventually the amazing weekly *Lance* Sunday strip (a full-page Western which — at the end of its run in 1960 — actually did away with line art and used the color plates alone for the images in some strips).

And that brings to mind the ongoing problems of strip collectors. Shel Dorf years ago did a cartoon of a little guy in the middle of stacks of papers with the caption, "The loneliness of the long-distance stripper." Anyone collecting strips is faced with spending hours of painstaking sorting and clipping to maintain a complete file (and that's if your local paper doesn't skip strips on the holidays or if your local newsstand doesn't occasionally miss getting the papers for the day).

More than a year ago, in ***Comics Buyer's Guide*** #1171, I ran a chart on books of comic-strip reprints. Telling stories in panel form is, as we know, an art form — and one of many differences between the comics field of today and the comics field when organized comics collecting began is that there are some keen strip collections today.

When you go into a comics shop, do you seek out strip reprints from Kitchen Sink? Ballantine? Fantagraphics? Cottonwood? Manuscript? Andrews and McMeel? NBM? Exhibit A? ACG? If you support them, there will be more — and you'll find compelling storytelling and sharp gags from the hands of experts.

What's your favorite comic strip of all time? Is it available today? If so, have you told your local newspaper about it and how important it is to you?

➽ **Important digression:** A professional recently inquired why we hadn't run any of the information so regularly provided to us. We discovered that person had been sending a steady stream of material — into our ex-CompuServe address, one we have had no way of accessing for several months now. Please refer to the assortment of e-mail addresses you'll find in the tiny type on Page 14. Those get to us right away!

— Maggie Thompson

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Dilbert contest!

Cedco Publishing Company produces Dilbert merchandise, and we have a set of some of its office supplies (a meeting book, address book, and a book of days) to give away.

So turn to Page 27 and read about the items; then put your name, age, and address on a postcard and mail it to:

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Entries are limited to one per person, and all entries must be postmarked by July 10. Winners will be announced in ***CBG*** #1291.

What's coming up in *CBG*? See Page 20!

Where can you find all those wonderful items that you thought had gotten away?

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How to handle an obscenity complaint

Comics shop, city attorney face off over Frazetta

ASSIGNMENT: COMICS by Michael Dean

The owners of Planet Comics, the Oklahoma City comics shop that was prosecuted for obscenity, never got the chance to cooperate with local authorities by removing titles from their store. But how *should* a comics retailer respond, if a police officer or municipal official requests or demands that a store be cleared of "offensive" material?

According to attorney Burton Joseph, who specializes in First Amendment cases and who represents the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund, such incidents occur more often than people know. "Once a month or so, we're contacted by a store that has been 'visited' by local authorities," he told ***CBG***. For every one that goes to prosecution, there are 10 that we are able to work out and settle without ever going to court."

Roy Booth, co-owner of B&B Comics, Books & Games in Bemidji, Minn., found himself facing that situation May 20, when a man came into his store and introduced himself as Bemidji City Attorney Alan Felix. Booth said Felix interrupted him in the middle of ringing up customers, saying he had urgent business.

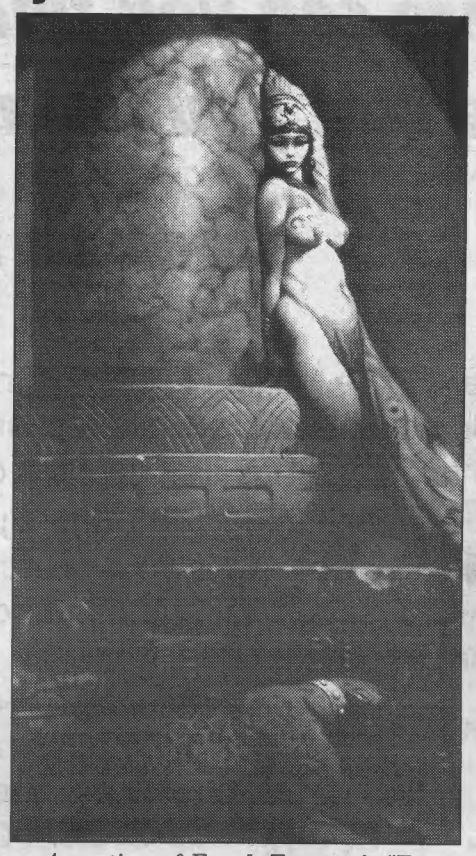
"I apologized to my understanding customers and obliged," Booth said. "I was led outside and then informed that the city had received complaints concerning some 'obscene' material that was hanging in my storefront and that it would be in my best interests if I removed it immediately. I was stunned, then angry, then appalled. The offensive 'poster' in question was a print of Frank Frazetta's masterpiece *The Egyptian Queen*."

At Booth's request, the objection was presented to him the following day in the form of a letter, which he then forwarded to the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund and ***CBG***. Ken Levinson, an attorney in Joseph's office, responded by contacting the city attorney, notifying him that display of the poster was within Booth's rights and that those rights would be vigorously defended. At press time, the city had not taken any further action. The city attorney did not respond to ***CBG***'s request for comment.

CBLDF Executive Director Christopher Oarr told ***CBG***, "B&B Comics is not a big case, because it was nipped in the bud. The reason we were able to shut it down so quickly is that Roy did some smart things here. First, he had the presence of mind to tell them to convey their concerns in writing. The second thing he did right was contact us immediately. This all happened in three days. A lot of this is just a matter of making it obvious that you have legal counsel."

In his letter to Booth, Felix wrote, "The City has received a complaint that a 'poster' presently hanging in the front window of your business is offensive. The poster at issue depicts a young woman with her back to a pillar and whose breasts are bared, though apparently they are painted with a design to give the impression of being partially clothed. Though the City does not have an obscenity ordinance regulating what is or may be obscene, I would ask that you, as a conciliatory gesture, remove or replace the poster with one that is not likely to offend the sensitivities of the average Bemidji citizen who may walk by your business."

Joseph said requiring officials to put their objections in writing forces them to be more precise in their wording and noted that the "complaints" referred to in the original contact had become a single "complaint" in the letter.



A portion of Frank Frazetta's "Egyptian Queen."

Oarr commented, "A more sinister aspect of this is that it shows how easy a target a comics shop would seem to be, if one complaint can get this kind of response from a city attorney."

Booth said, "I have had problems during my store's six years of existence concerning 'average' citizens, ranging from the 'prayer warriors' who formed a circle in the back of the store during new-comics day speaking in tongues trying to 'lift the evil spirits of the air' from my building to the nut who became violent after I laughed at his theory about Batman and Robin being the main cause of 'rampant homosexuality' in America today (Holy shades of Dr. Wertham, Batman!). But to have the city tell me that Frank Frazetta's work is obscene and is unfit to be seen by the general public based on one anonymous complaint? Ludicrous."

Booth was luckier than some in that his first sign of trouble was not vice squad officers hauling comics and computer records out of his store, as happened in the Planet Comics case. Joseph said, "I think the authorities in this case acted very responsibly. The city attorney was just doing his job, but, when he swore to uphold the law, that included First Amendment rights."

Nevertheless, the risks of noncompliance can be great, as the Planet Comics owners found. Even if a community has no obscenity ordinance, Joseph said, businesses can find themselves subject to extra-strict monitoring, ticketing, and other forms of harassment by local authorities.

"It has to be [the retailer's] decision," Joseph said, "because it's not my neck on the line. In any case, I advise retailers to always be respectful and diplomatic in dealing with the authorities. I also urge people to contact us whenever there is any attempt to interfere with their First Amendment rights."

Asked if he had considered avoiding further hassle by simply moving the print from the window, Booth told ***CBG***, "I thought about that, but I've learned that you can't please everybody all the time, no matter what you do." Booth said an informal poll of customers and passers-by on the issue had resulted in 68 votes for keeping the print up and four for taking it down.

Oarr, who noted that the CBLDF had dealt with five similar cases in the past year, described the Bemidji incident as "not a big deal. But then most of these things don't start out as a big deal."

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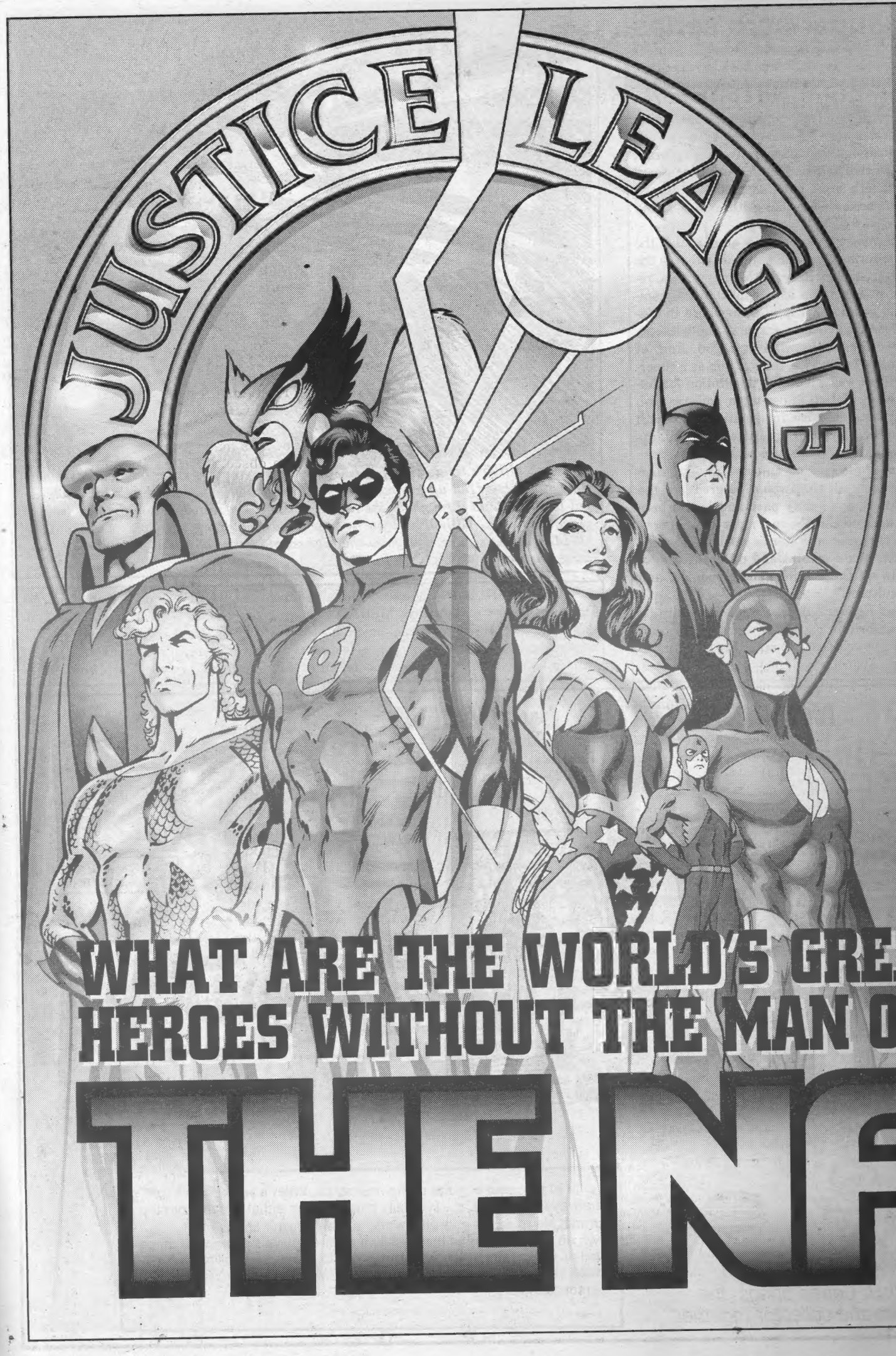

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Rosema thinks big for super-hero series

After years of working on such licensed properties as *Dungeons & Dragons, Disney's Aladdin*, and *Space Ghost*, Scott Rosema has developed his own comic book, a super-hero series set on a distant world. Called *Scott Rosema's August!*, the title is slated for bimonthly publication by Arrow Comics.

The motto for Rosema's new venture is "It doesn't take big companies to make great comics — just big ideas." Rosema's big idea involves a very big planet (10,000 times the size of Earth) called Brevon with dozens of civilizations that have evolved in different ways. Due to the distances separating them, these civilizations have never encountered one another, their only link being August, the planet's super-powered protector. August plays a different role in relation to each civilization, according to that culture's beliefs and attitudes.

Rosema said, "I read how an official of the USSR, during the Cold War, in reaction to the first Christopher Reeve Superman movie, referred to Superman as a symbol of evil capitalism. Similarly, I read somewhere in *National Geographic* that a tribe in South America described Superman as a god. And, of course, we in America, refer to him as a superhero. That was where the inspiration for August was created. Super-ultra powers; cool, classic costume; huge, imaginative world with incredible, powerful creatures and villains that would put even those powers to the test; dozens of fascinating cultures and civilizations: Yeah, all that would be great for the fun, zippy, eye-candy part and would be a blast to draw. But the real meat and potatoes of the character and stories would be that he, August, has a pivotal and different role to play in all these lands, their peoples, and their cultures."

Scott Rosema's August! #1 will feature 32 black-and-white pages (21 pages of story) for $2.95. It is scheduled to make its debut (naturally) in August.

Frank Miller's rendering of ***Sin City****'s Marv returning from the dead as a new Spawn has been put up for bid in an on-line auction to benefit the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund throughout the month of June. Interested persons can register to place bids at the CBLDF website at http://www.cbldf.org or by phone at (800) 99-CBLDF. Miller's piece will go to the highest bidder as of midnight, June 30. Bidding starts at $500.*

• Though DC has announced plans to phase out its SF-oriented Helix imprint, **Dave Gibbons** and **Angus McKie**'s one-shot *The Dome: Ground Zero* ($7.95, 64 pages) is still on the schedule for July. The story of a mysterious dome that appears on the testing grounds for a new weapon as the millennium approaches is told through a mixture of painted and computer-generated art. — ***Michael Dean***

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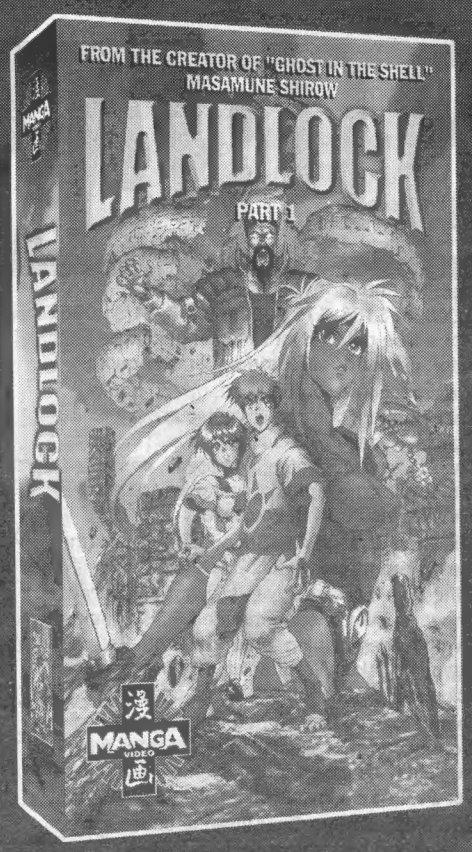

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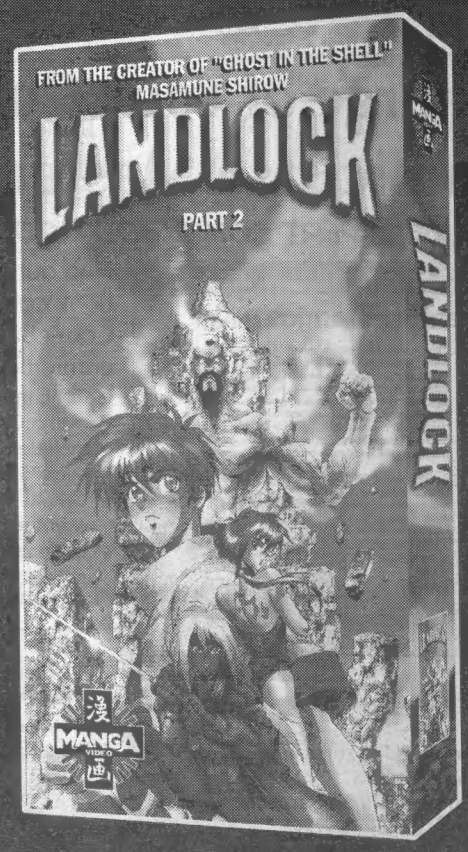

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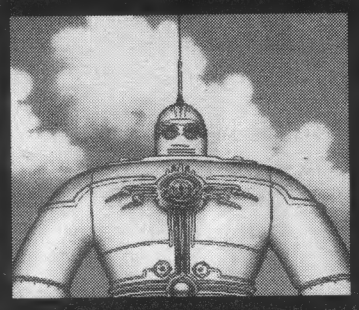

'Big Guy' to the big screen, 'Model by Day' returns to the States

Dark Horse animates. According to *The Hollywood Reporter*, Dark Horse Entertainment has entered into a two-year, first-look deal with Columbia Tristar Television's Children's Programming division. As a result, the first property to get a green light is **Frank Miller** and **Geof Darrow**'s *Big Guy and Rusty the Boy Robot*. Set up through Sony, the property is set to become an animated series, which should begin airing this fall. Also on the short list of properties to be developed is an animated version of **Art Adams**' *Monkeyman and O'Brien*. Another is *The Destroyer*, as an hour-long drama.

Additionally, Dark Horse has a first-look deal for feature films with Universal Pictures and Larry Gordon Productions. The trade reports the comics company has teamed with Intermedia to develop *The Dark Side of Nowhere*, a "horror/sci-fi/coming-of-age story."

"Model by Day: The Series." Originally an adult-themed comic book written and drawn by **Kevin J. Taylor**, *Model by Day* was originally published by Rip Off Press and later by Sirius. The comic book's title explains it all: The lead character is a model by day and a masked super-hero by night. While the series failed to make a blip on most collectors' radar, it did find one big fan: comics and screenwriter **Jeph Loeb**. "I found the comics at the 1993 San Diego Con, met Kevin, and then made arrangements to buy the rights other than publishing," Loeb said. "Then my screenwriting partner **Matthew Weisman** and I took the property and teamed up with **Lewis Chesler**, whom we had known from our days of doing *The Hitchhiker* on HBO. In 1994, we made a two-hour pilot (minus the adult elements) for Fox with **Famke Jansen**, whom most people know as Xenia Onatopp from the Bond film *GoldenEye*."

Don't remember seeing the pilot? Don't worry. No one else does, either. "Fox decided to run it against the Academy Awards," Loeb said. "Needless to say, they were disappointed with the numbers but asked us to write a series pilot, anyway. It became the property that wouldn't die."

Loeb and Weisman wrote and oversaw production on a five-minute presentation reel starring model **Monika Schnarre** versus a nemesis played by **Carmen Electra**, but, due to Fox administration changes, the project met with delay after delay until recently, when Chesler returned to the United States after making movies in Europe, where the original Fox television movie played in theaters. "It was uncanny — in many European markets in 1994, there was *True Lies* and there was *Model by Day* as the top-grossing movies of the year," Loeb said. "It was very, very popular over there, so, after some more going around, we finally put together a package where, like *Highlander*, the *Model by Day* television series will be shot in Europe but will be set in an English-speaking, fictional city called 'The City.'

"Our hope is to shoot the first season, 26 one-hour episodes, later this year and then come to the States and put them into syndication or some kind of network deal while the episodes are airing in European markets. What's great about it is that we have more than enough money out of Europe in order to make a really great-looking show. So it will have high production values along with great-looking women and men and great fun."

Due to scheduling conflicts, neither Jansen nor Schnarre will return to the lead role of the series, so a global search will soon be under way to find an actress to fill the lead role.

Loeb and Weisman, who interviewed more than 3,000 models for the original movie ("Hardest thing I ever did in my life," Loeb added with a laugh) said they were up to the challenge. "It's James Bond meets John Woo with chicks," Loeb added. "It has a very tongue-in-cheek tone and doesn't take itself too seriously, which, when you consider that we're talking about a model fighting crime, is probably a good thing.

"But, all in all, it's going to be a great series. As our tag line says, 'Super-hero, super-model: What more could you ask for?' "

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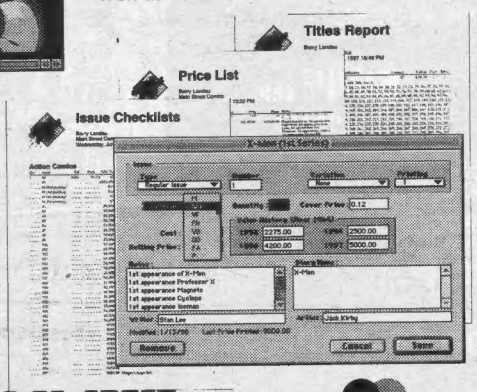

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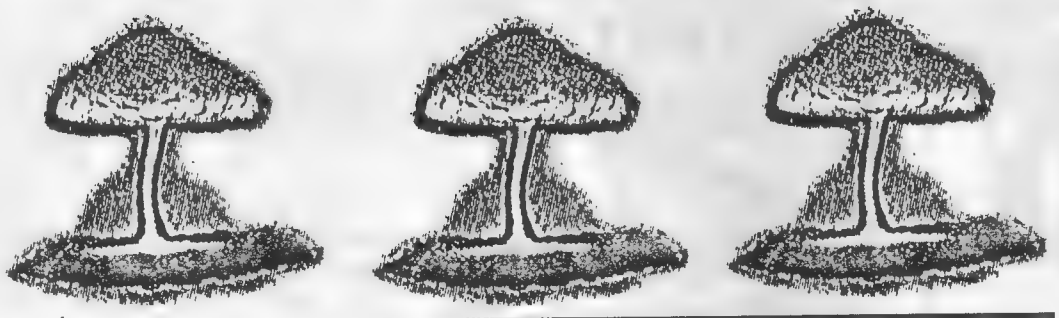

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More on "No Man's Land." For those who missed the original story, "No Man's Land" is the continuing backstory throughout all Batman titles in 1999. Devastated in the recent "Cataclysm" storyline, Gotham is not only cut off from federal financial aid, but is also cut off from the rest of the United States, causing the city to become a literal "No Man's Land," without law or government.

The storyline will cross into all Bat titles (except *Batman: Legends of the Dark Knight*) in the coming year. However, rather than tell stories in individual series, creators will be assigned arcs which will move across series in the whole "NML" backdrop. Contributors already lined up for "NML" include *Back to the Future* creator Bob Gale, Alex Maleev, Paul Dini, Ian Edgington, Larry Hama, Jon Bogdanove, Matt Wagner, J. Scott Campbell, Dan Norton, Mike Deodato Jr., Karl Kesel, and John Byrne.

According to Bat-Editor **Jordan Gorfinkel**, "NML" kicks off with an arc entitled "Declaration of War," in which the government gives Gotham the bad news, and a new villain is introduced who facilitates the government's decision to cast Gotham off from the continental United States.

Gorfinkel stressed that the main point of "NML" is to put Batman under the microscope now, 10 years after *Batman: Year One*. "The story will force him to examine his career and what methods serve him best," he added. "Should he return to his lone Dark Knight roots or should he continue to work with partners, including Commissioner James Gordon? It's a different Gotham than 10 years ago, and Batman must come to terms with what that means for him as a super-hero and as a person. Additionally, 'NML' will be chock-full of action and adventure. Batman will face down virtually every single one of his A-list villains who have carved up Gotham City into sectors and rule them as their turf. In story after story, Batman will be battling the likes of Scarecrow, Poison Ivy, Mr. Freeze, Two-Face, and, of course, The Joker to win back his city. Epic drama and unceasing action: That's 'No Man's Land.'"

"Cathedral Child" returns. Image "non-line" survivor *Cathedral Child* is still going strong, according to series creator **Lea Hernandez**. "I was thrilled with the response that *Cathedral Child* garnered," Hernandez said. "Many readers wrote in saying that they loved the painted cover art and asked if it would be released as a poster. I don't see how I could say no, so the cover rendered in watercolor washes and inks will be offered by Image for November shipping. The cover features Child's hero and heroine, Glory and Sumner."

As it turns out the poster is merely a warmup. Hernandez reported that the sequel to the manga-esque *Child, Clockwork Angels*, will ship in December.

X-Factor is canned, but Havok = Mutant X. Editor **Frank Pittarese** promises more than just cosmetic changes and covering of old ground, when Marvel cancels *X-Factor* with issue #149 (July) and then relaunches the title as *Mutant X* in August. Written by *X-Factor* writer Howard Mackie, teamed with penciller Tom Raney, the new ongoing series stars longtime X-Factor leader Havok, transported to a darker, more supernatural alternate dimension, where former teammates and friends appear as distorted version of themselves, including a vampiric Storm and an Icemen who freezes and kills anything he touches.

"Taking over the body of the 'alternate' Havok, who co-leads the sinister X-Factor with his wife, Madelyne Pryor, the 'real' Alex Summers must conceal his secret, find a way home, and save the souls of him former teammates' counterparts who have been corrupted by The Goblin Queen."

Pittarese also had a message for readers who might think this is just another overdone, "alternate universe" story arc or "event" gimmick.

"I'm well aware of 'Age of Apocalypse,' 'Heroes Reborn,' and 'Days of Future Present,' " said Pittarese. "I also edit *What If?*, so I'm not getting my wires crossed. This won't be a retread of old material or an excuse to dress The X-Men in new suits. Assistant Editor **Jason White** and I have got the market cornered on X-continuity, and you can count on character-driven stories, too. I'm a big fan of soap operas and am well aware that, whenever a story is built around an event, everything falls apart before too long. This series isn't about X-Factor any more; it's about Havok, who over the course of the last several years has been jerked around more than enough times. If we do our jobs right, by the time it comes to an end, you'll see that Alex has grown as a man and as a hero."

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Thumbing though comics publications, I have noticed several announcements of two new characters. Well, sort of.

Rob Liefeld is excited about his new comics-style film character The Mark, who seems to have little to do with the recent Dark Horse character of the same name. I'll admit to a certain disappointment here: I always thought the Dark Horse character would make an interesting film.

Michael Turner is getting lots of ink about his new underwater character, Fathom — apparently no relation to the Fathom character last published by Comico less than two years ago and (I think) probably still owned by Bill Willingham.

My question is: How is it that these names can be re-used so quickly? Were the names purchased from the owners, did they become public domain, or is Bob Ingersoll about to have fodder for a couple more columns?

Inquiring — aw, heck, just plain nosy — minds want to know ...

[When Jerry Bails put together his ***Collector's Guide: The First Heroic Age****, readers could note such characters as The Defender from Marvel and The Defenders from Novack; Dynamic Boy from Dynamic and The Dynamic Man from Marvel; The Falcon from Marvel and The Falcon from MLJ; The Ghost from Comic House and The Ghost from Better (not to mention The Ghost of Flanders from Quality, Ghost Patrol from National, and Ghost Woman from Cambridge House); and The Minute Man from Street and Smith and Minute-Man from Fawcett.*

And that was long before the massive Super-Hero Character Glut we have today. You can't copyright names or titles. You ***can*** *trademark them, though. And that would be where restrictions would enter the picture.]*

Jackie Estrada
President, Friends of Lulu
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Those attending Friends of Lulu's LuluCon II, "Reaching out to the Future," will be treated to luncheon talks by two women, Suzan Colón and Jami Bernard, who are well-versed in how the popular arts are marketed to females.

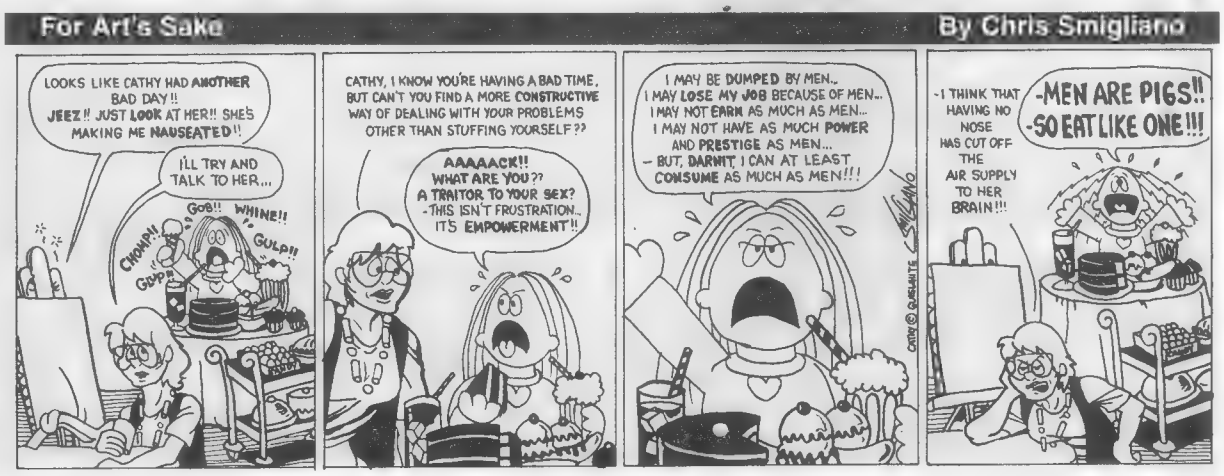
Colón is the entertainment editor for *Jane* magazine, which bills itself as being "for the young woman who's got a life." The magazine goes beyond fashion and beauty to review alternative music and other media, cover women's issues, and delve into other topics "on the edge." Colón promises to bring some insights into how comics can reach *Jane*'s target audience.

Bernard is an award-winning film critic for the *New York Daily News* and author of four film books, including *Chick Flicks: A Movie Lover's Guide to the Movies Women Love*. Her film essays also appear in *Flesh and Blood*, and her movie grades appear in *Entertainment Weekly*. A frequent commentator on radio and television, she is a member and former chair of the New York Film Critics Circle, as well as a member of the National Society of Film Critics. Bernard will discuss how Hollywood is going after the female audience.

The Friends of Lulu conference will be held June 13 and 14 at the Newark Airport Marriott. The main topic is getting more comics into the hands of girls and boys of all ages through such outreach efforts as schools, libraries, and the Internet, as well as the direct market. Participants will include comics publishers, creators, and retailers — and experts in marketing, media, and related topics. Some of those scheduled to participate include award-winning cartoonist Art Spiegelman, Francoise Mouly (art editor for *The New Yorker*), CBLDF director Chris Oarr, Heidi MacDonald (*Disney Adventures*), Chris Duffy and Laura Galen (*Nickelodeon* magazine), Paul Castiglia (Archie Comics), Martha Thomases and Paul Doyle (DC Comics), Elizabeth Ward (Scholastic Books), Beth Hannan Rimmels (comics

(Continues on Page 16)

For Art's Sake — By Chris Smigliano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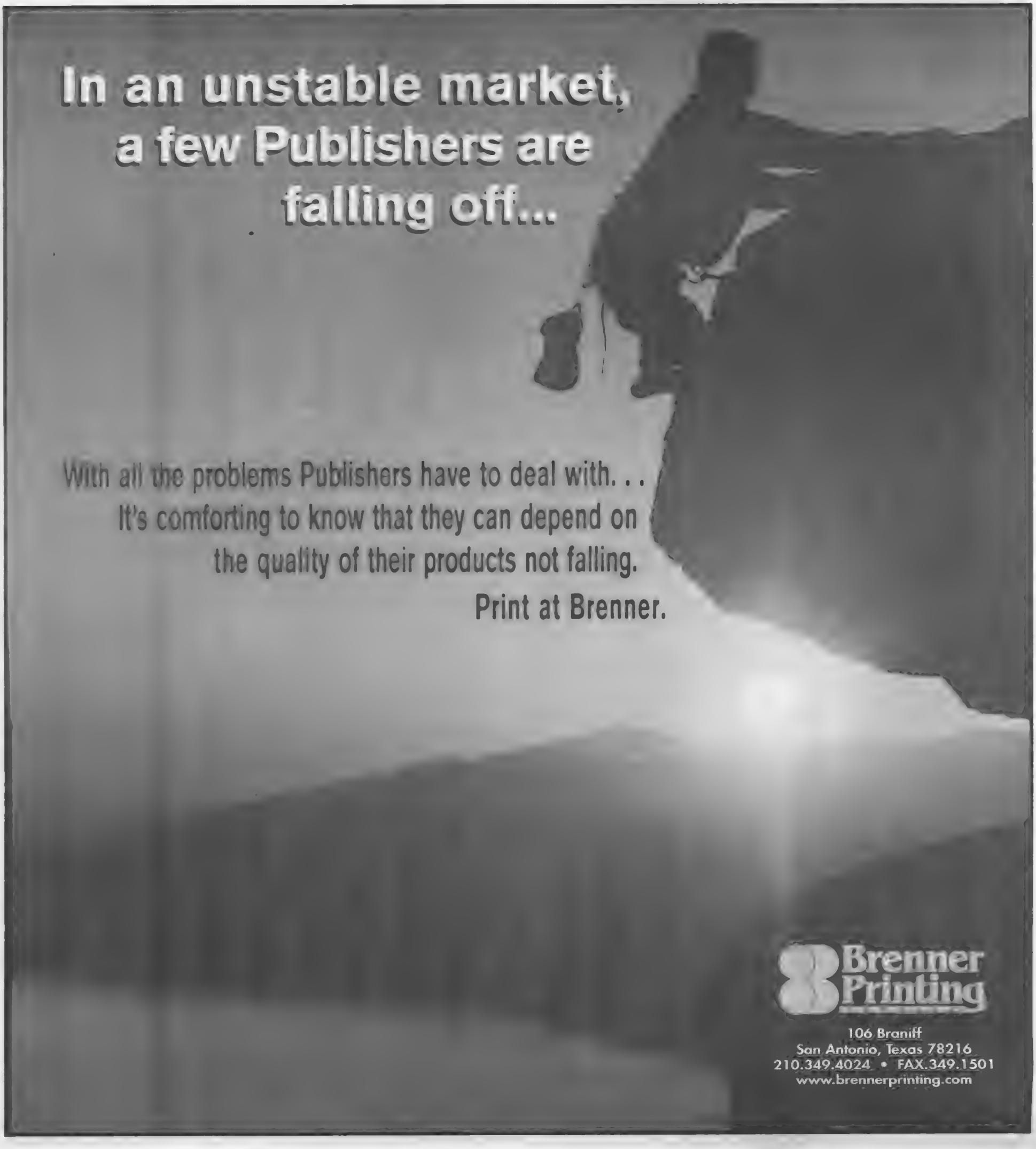

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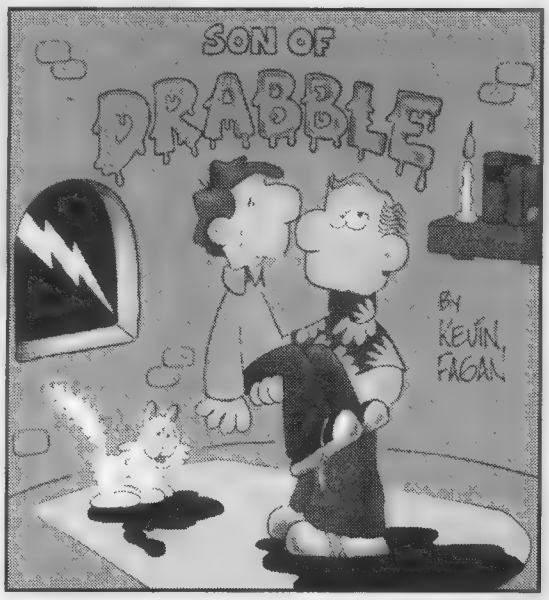

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AS DIVERSE AS COMICS CAN BE

Oh, So?

From Page 14

columnist, *Long Island Voice*), and Maggie Thompson (***Comics Buyer's Guide***).

The sponsors of LuluCon II include Dark Horse Comics, Diamond Comic Distributors, Cartoon Books, *Nickelodeon* magazine, Sirius Entertainment, and ORCA (Organized Readers of Comics Associated).

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Ed Boland
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A couple of points about Michael Dean's latest installment of *Assignment Comics* (***CBG*** #1281):

I think that Hamilton's statement, "Everything is screaming for kids' attention and whatever is loudest and stimulating them the most wins," explains why comics sold in the millions during the Golden Age much better than it explains why comics sell in the tens of thousands today. That is, I think that at one time comic books were the items that screamed the loudest for the kids' attention. Over time, new products with greater "shouting power" have bridged the stimulation gap better than comic books. Most "stimulating" products today require passive involvement, while comics involve active participation from the reader for the stimulation to occur.

Then, Hamilton's acquisition of the DC Comic Bookmobile provided insight, too. Again, active participation in the hobby plays a factor in the effectiveness of comic-book sales at schoolyards and swap meets. A particular adage comes to mind, one that marketing professors often dispel: "Build a better mousetrap, and the world will beat a path to your door."

The professors frequently argue that it takes more than just a superior product to achieve superior sales. It takes a good mix of the four P's: Price, Place, Product, and Promotion. In the case of bringing a Bookmobile to a swap meet with no interest from the attending public, it's tough to say what failed in the Bookmobile experiment. It could be that the mobile comic-book store only offered one P, Place, and could not cover the other three categories well enough to be successful.

I am taking a risk in assuming that Hamilton did not promote his venture, but, since the article mentions nothing of promotional efforts during the Bookmobile's tour of duty, I would conclude that no promotional efforts were done. However, I don't necessarily agree with Marvel's Thomas Conboy, that it's the amount of money you spend that helps you sell. I think that more money should be spent to promote comics but that that money needs to be spent wisely. I think there is a *huge* communications gap between the comic-book industry and the rest of the world. Comics fans know and understand their favorite product, but the perceptions of the rest of the world seem to miss the point that comic books are entertainment — and that this entertainment can transcend any age.

In any event, thanks for the entertaining series *Assignment: Comics*. I have it found it informative and interesting. I hope the series challenges publishers, distributors, and retailers in new and unique ways. This is — to my knowledge — the only market study on comic books in print. I think that the future is still bright for the market. As Hamilton says, the publishers that adapt to the changes in the marketplace will survive. With the number of new publishers that keep popping up, somebody out there should be able to keep things going for quite a while.

Troy Reynolds
4712 Defiance Pike
Wayne, OH 43466

A few months ago I asked the readers of ***CBG*** for some help with research for my senior thesis on Fredric Wertham.

Several people offered sources for information, and I would especially like to thank Craig Shutt, Gary DeJong, Mike Weng, Leonard Rifas, and David Palmer for all their help. I really appreciate it; your help led to some very interesting information. (I received an A on the thesis, too.)

I would also like to thank Maggie for printing the original request. (I enjoyed talking to you at Motor City Comic Con on the 16th. Anyone who didn't make it missed a great time.)

Now that that is out of the way, I wanted to make some comments on the death of Gwen Stacy article from ***CBG*** #1277. Spider-Man has always been my favorite character, and Gwen's death was an important turning point in his history. I really enjoyed the article, but I have to disagree with a couple things.

Scott Brick raises some questions about which really killed Gwen: the shock of the fall itself or the sudden jolt when Spidey's webbing halted her plummet. Looking at the evidence, the matter is quickly cleared up.

The Goblin claims, "She was dead before your webbing reached her! A fall from that height would kill anyone — before they struck the ground!" The Goblin is correct; the shock of a fall could possibly kill a conscious victim, but Gwen is out like a light. Spidey says that she is already "in a state of shock." It is very doubtful that "the shock of a sudden fall" could have killed an unconscious person.

If that wasn't enough, in *Amazing Spider-Man* #125, "The Spider's Web" letter column clears up the whole matter. I quote: "It saddens us to have to say that the whiplash effect she underwent when Spidey's webbing stopped her so suddenly was, in fact, what killed her."

Taking these two factors into account, I don't see any way around the fact that it was ultimately Spidey himself who directly killed Gwen, even though it was The Goblin who set the whole thing in motion. (This does lead to an interesting question, though. Should information in letters columns be considered as an official part of a character's continuity?)

Keep up the good work; I'm looking forward to more of those great articles.

[I don't think outside-the-storyline interpretations, even by an editor, count when it comes to

(Continues on Page 20)

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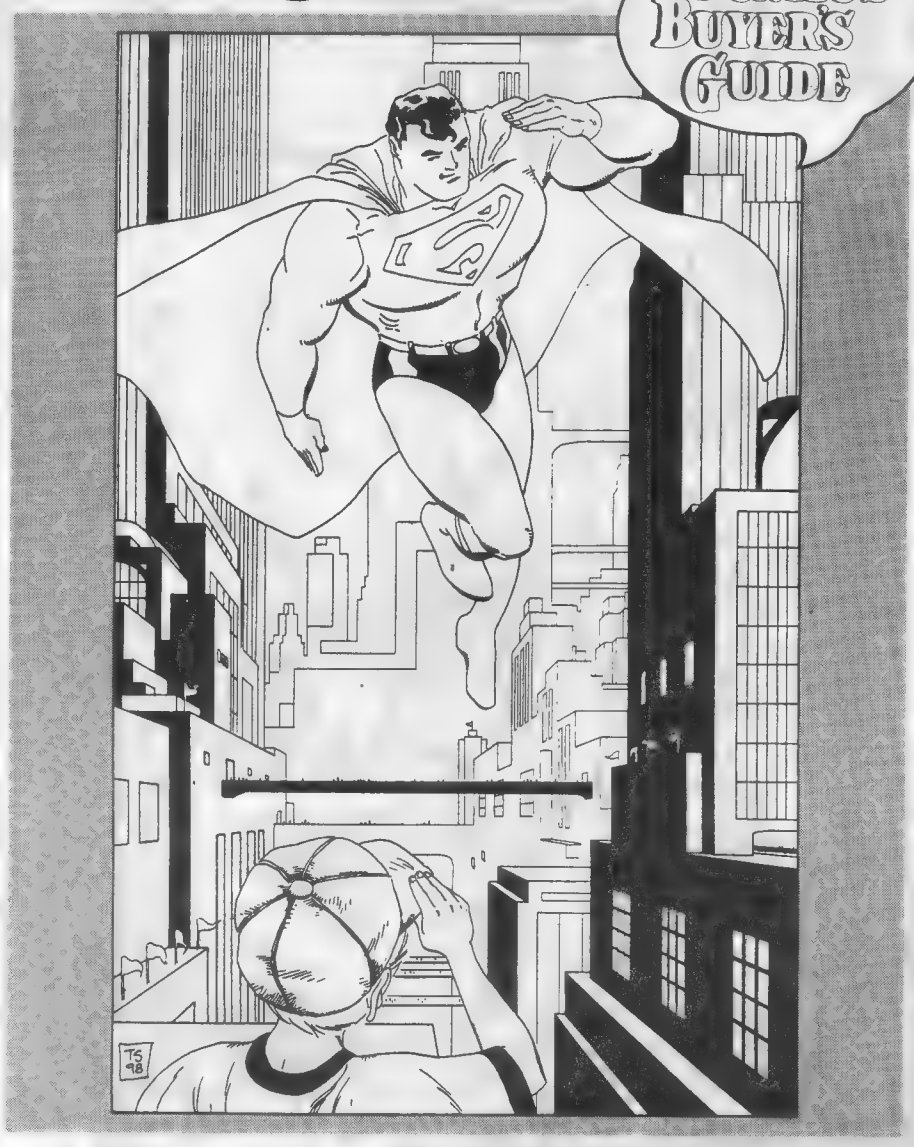

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Oh, So?

From Page 16

the "reality" of a story. The "truth" can only be in what's shown on panelled pages — and if an editor needs to have a "fact" incorporated into the story, he or she must have it lettered into a story page.]

Alan J. Porter
426 Severnside Dr.
Severna Park, MD 21146

You were kind enough to run a letter from me in ***CBG*** #1268 in which I put forward the idea that what the comics industry needs is a consortium or trade group that could act in the interests of the industry as a whole. The idea is that, instead of individual companies trying to promote their products and the medium, the industry group could concentrate on promoting the medium of comics as another form of entertainment and thereby increase its market share of those disposable income dollars.

In the same letter, I extended an offer to any publisher, distributor, or retailer who liked the idea to contact me, and, if response was strong enough, I would devote time and effort to getting the consortium idea off the ground.

The total response: one letter.

So what's the point of this letter? To complain? No — to ask a question.

Despite the lack of response, I continued to research the idea and found to my surprise that we *do* have an industry group, the Comics Magazine Association of America (CMAA). It appears that the CMAA was formed in 1954 as the vehicle that introduced the Comics Code and its Seal of Approval. No matter what your opinion of the Code may be, the fact is that the industry at the time was facing a crisis and banded together to do something, not for the sake of individual companies but for the survival of the industry as a whole.

Everyone agrees that the comics industry is in a time of crisis, although the crisis may not be a censorship one (and that's debatable) but a financial one.

At its inception, the CMAA membership consisted of 24 publishers (out of the 27 invited to join), seven distributors, and 11 printers and/or engravers. Today the industry has around 500 active publishers (according to ***CBG***'s own statistics), one major distributor and a few smaller ones, and somewhere between 2,000 and 3,000 specialty retailers. From this large number of potential members, the current roster of the CMAA is three. Yes, only three: Marvel, DC, and Archie.

So what's my question? It's a simple one, really. What does the CMAA do for the industry today? Where is the CMAA-sponsored trade forum? Is there ever a CMAA booth at major conventions? Where's the CMAA website? Does it actively seek new members? When was the last time you saw a CMAA press release or advertising campaign? What support does the CMAA give to organizations like Friends of Lulu or the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund? Does the CMAA offer support to such excellent but financially troubled comics showcases as the Words & Pictures Museum?

OK, that's more than one question — it's a lot. But I'm just curious.

*[As you probably saw in **CBG** #1281, Dark Horse just joined the CMAA — which administers a racking program to get comics into general venues, for one thing. (That's CMAA, 355 Lexington Ave., 17th Fl., New York, NY 10017.) I've never seen a CMAA con booth, although Leonard Darvin appeared to speak for the group at John Benson's New York City con in the early '60s: the first large comics con. Since the organization is there to provide specific services to companies which fund those services, it may be felt that the industry support would more properly come from those companies without the added expense of the CMAA as a third party. Just a guess.]*

Louis Bright-Raven
Celestial Entertainment
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Laughlin, NV 89029

Mark Evanier's *POV* column from #1280, regarding the usage of the word "hack" in descriptions of creators and their work, was a very interesting piece. I particularly liked it when he posed the questions as to whether anyone would like to consider the works of Stan Lee, Jack Kirby, Will Eisner, or other greats as the work of "hack" creators.

Allow me to tell you a true story from my experiences at college.

I attended Central Michigan University and, in 1993, was taking an art history class under the tutelage of one Dr. Richard Gergel. We had progressed to the cultural art revolution known as the Pop Art period, and he was praising at some length the works of the (now) late Roy Lichtenstein.

I don't much care for Lichtenstein's work. In fact, what was displayed during the slide show looked like little more to me than panels excerpted from some of Jack Kirby's war comics, with the text removed. And, being the type of guy I am, I made a point of saying so in class.

The vehement response I got back was, "Jack 'The Hack' Kirby was nothing more than a mere emulator of Lichtenstein's genius, and, if you'd take your head out of your funnybooks, you'd know that."

Funny. Never mind the fact that Jack Kirby had been working as a professional comics illustrator for well over two decades before Lichtenstein put the canvas on the easel. Forget that Kirby was a superlative painter in his own right — in many ways superior to Lichtenstein.

And you don't want to know what he said about Raymond or Eisner. I can't remember most of it, anyway, but it was hardly printable.

I guess we commercial artist types just aren't real "artists." Guess we'll have to wait until the Vatican requests Glenn Fabry to paint a Preacher mural, eh? With people like this being our educators, how else can we expect to be regarded? It's a conditioned response so that even our artistic brethren look at our work (and us) with complete and total disdain.

Comics archivist, retailer, and creator David Elyea likes to point out to me that nearly every piece of historically significant art was work for hire, either by the church, royalty, or a wealthy patron. I couldn't agree more. So I guess some rich philanthropist will have to come buy Marvel Comics and save us from our sorry selves. Hey — Bill Gates! We've got a proposition for you ...

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64 NM92 $22
64 NM94 $25
65 NM94 $30
66 NM94 $25
67 NM94 $30
68 NM+96 $15
69 NM+96 $15
69 NM94 $21
70 NM94 $12
71 NM94 $30
72 NM94 $12
73 NM92 $10
73 NM94 $22
74 NM94 $12
75 NM/M98 (GS) $25
75 NM94 $22
76 NM+96 $15
76 NM94 $22
77 NM94 $12
78 NM+95 $15
78 NM94 $22
79 NM94 $22
80 NM+96 $15
81 NM92 $17
82 NM94 $22
83 NM94 $22
84 NM94 $12
85 NM94 $22
85 VF/NM90 $10
86 NM94 $30
87 NM94 $12
88 NM+95 $22
88 NM94 $22
89 NM+96 $15
89 NM94 $22
90 NM+96 $15
90 NM94 $22
91 NM/M98 (GS) $25
91 NM94 $22
92 NM94 $20
97 NM94 $18
98 NM+95 $25
98 NM94 $40
99 NM93 $35
99 NM94 $22
100 NM/M98 (GS) $150
100 NM92 $50
106 NM+96 $15
109 NM+96 $15
110 NM/M98 (GS) $50
116 NM+96 $10
125 NM/M98 (GS) $38
129 NM/M98 (GS) $18
136 NM/M98 (GS) $15
152 NM/M98 (GS) $10
155 NM/M98 (GS) $10
161 NM/M98 (GS) $10
162 NM/M98 (GS) $10
167 NM/M98 (GS) $10
169 NM/M98 (GS) $10
170 NM/M98 (GS) $10
175 NM/M98 (GS) $10
176 NM/M98 (GS) $10
179 NM/M98 (GS) $10

AVENGERS ANNUAL
1 NM/M98 (GS) $125
1 NM92 $60
2 NM93 $30
3 NM92 $20
4 NM+96 $20
7 NM/M98 (GS) $30
8 NM/M98 (GS) $30

CAPTAIN AMERICA
100 NM+97 (GS) $500
100 NM94 $325
101 NM+97 (GS) $100
101 VG/F $30
102 NM+97 (GS) $60
102 VF/NM90 $30
103 NM+97 (GS) $60
104 NM+97 (GS) $60
104 NM93 $50
105 NM+97 (GS) $65
106 NM+97 (GS) $60
107 VF $20
108 NM92 $50
109 VF+ $65
111 F+ $45
112 NM+96 $42
112 NM94 $50
115 NM94 $30
116 NM94 $30
117 NM94 $30
125 VF/NM $25
138 VF/NM $12
148 NM/M98 (GS) $12
149 NM/M98 (GS) $12
160 NM/M98 (GS) $12
167 NM/M98 (GS) $15
171 NM/M98 (GS) $15
176 NM/M98 (GS) $15
177 NM/M98 (GS) $15
185 NM/M98 (GS) $10
195 NM/M98 (GS) $10
196 NM/M98 (GS) $10
200 NM/M98 (GS) $10
203 NM/M98 (GS) $10
204 NM/M98 (GS) $10
208 NM/M98 (GS) $10
209 NM/M98 (GS) $10
210 NM/M98 (GS) $10
215 NM/M98 (GS) $10
216 NM/M98 (GS) $10
219 NM/M98 (GS) $10
220 NM/M98 (GS) $10
221 NM/M98 (GS) $10
222 NM/M98 (GS) $10
223 NM/M98 (GS) $10
224 NM/M98 (GS) $10
225 NM/M98 (GS) $10
226 NM/M98 (GS) $10
227 NM/M98 (GS) $10
228 NM/M98 (GS) $10
229 NM/M98 (GS) $10
230 NM/M98 (GS) $10
231 NM/M98 (GS) $10
232 NM/M98 (GS) $10

CAPTAIN MARVEL
1 VF+ (WP) $75
1 VF/NM $100
2 VF+ $30
3 NM+97 (GS) $25
3 VF/NM $22
5 NM/M $30
5 NM/M98 (GS) $20
7 NM/M98 (GS) $20
9 NM/M98 (GS) $18
10 NM/M $15
11 NM/M98 (GS) $18
13 F+ $6
25 NM/M98 (GS) $24
26 NM/M98 (GS) $36
27 NM/M98 (GS) $25
29 NM/M98 (GS) $20
30 NM/M98 (GS) $20
31 NM/M98 (GS) $25
32 NM/M98 (GS) $20
33 NM/M98 (GS) $30
35 NM/M98 (GS) $10
36 NM/M98 (GS) $10
38 NM/M98 (GS) $10
39 NM/M98 (GS) $10
41 NM/M98 (GS) $10
42 NM/M98 (GS) $10
43 NM/M98 (GS) $10
44 NM/M98 (GS) $10
45 NM/M98 (GS) $10
46 NM/M98 (GS) $10
47 NM/M98 (GS) $10

CAPTAIN SAVAGE
1 VF+ $8
2 NM/M98 (GS) $15
2 NM94 $10
3 NM/M98 (GS) $15
3 NM94 $10
4 NM/M98 (GS) $15
4 NM94 $10
5 NM/M98 (GS) $15
5 NM94 $10
6 NM/M98 (GS) $15
6 NM91 $8
7 NM/M98 (GS) $15
7 NM94 $10
8 NM/M98 (GS) $15
8 NM94 10
9 NM/M98 (GS) $15
9 NM94 $10
10 NM/M98 (GS) $15
11 NM/M98 (GS) $13
12 NM/M98 (GS) $13
13 NM/M98 (GS) $13
14 NM/M98 (GS) $13
15 NM/M98 (GS) $13
16 NM/M98 (GS) $13
17 NM/M98 (GS) $13
18 NM/M98 (GS) $13
19 NM/M98 (GS) $13

CHAMBER OF DARKNESS
2 NM/M98 (GS) $24
3 NM/M98 (GS) $24
3 NM/M98 (GS) $70

CONAN
1 NM+95 (GS) $285
1 VF/NM90 $225
2 VG/F $32
3 NM/M98 (GS) $280
3 VF/NM90 $140
5 NM $75
4 NM93 $50
5 NM92 $50
5 NM94 $75
6 NM+96 $50
6 VF/NM $40
7 VF+ $28
8 NM/M98 (GS) $88
8 VF/NM90 $35
9 NM/M98 (GS) $88
9 NM94 $45
10 NM94 $50
10 VF $35
11 NM92 $42
11 NM94 (GS) $60
12 NM/M98 (GS) $60
12 NM93 $30
13 NM/M98 $48
13 NM/M98 (GS) $60
14 NM/M98 (GS) $90
14 VF/NM90 $36
15 NM+96 $36
15 NM93 (GS) $45
16 NM/M98 (GS) $50
17 NM/M $15
18 NM92 (GS) $10
18 VF+ $8
19 NM94 $25
21 NM $23
22 NM/M $30
22 NM92 $18
23 VF/NM90 (GS) $28
24 NM/M $40
24 NM94 $35
26 NM/M (WP) $10
26 NM/M98 (GS) $10
30 NM/M98 (GS) $10
30 NM/M99 (WP) $10
31 NM/M98 (GS) $10
32 NM/M98 (GS) $10
34 NM/M98 (GS) $10
36 NM/M98 (GS) $10
38 NM/M98 (GS) $10
39 NM/M98 (GS) $10
40 NM/M98 (GS) $10
41 NM/M98 (GS) $10
42 NM/M98 (GS) $10
45 NM/M98 (GS) $10
46 NM/M98 (GS) $10
47 NM/M98 (GS) $10
48 NM/M98 (GS) $10
49 NM/M98 (GS) $10
50 NM/M98 (GS) $10
51 NM/M98 (GS) $10
52 NM/M98 (GS) $10
53 NM/M98 (GS) $10
54 NM/M98 (GS) $10
55 NM/M98 (GS) $10
56 NM/M98 (GS) $10
60 NM/M98 (GS) $10
61 NM/M98 (GS) $10
62 NM/M98 (GS) $10
63 NM/M98 (GS) $10
64 NM/M98 (GS) $10
65 NM/M98 (GS) $10
66 NM/M98 (GS) $10
67 NM/M98 (GS) $10
68 NM/M98 (GS) $10
69 NM/M98 (GS) $10
70 NM/M98 (GS) $10
71 NM/M98 (GS) $10
72 NM/M98 (GS) $10
73 NM/M98 (GS) $10
74 NM/M98 (GS) $10
75 NM/M98 (GS) $10
76 NM/M98 (GS) $10
77 NM/M98 (GS) $10
78 NM/M98 (GS) $10
79 NM/M98 (GS) $10
80 NM/M98 (GS) $10
81 NM/M98 (GS) $10
82 NM/M98 (GS) $10
83 NM/M98 (GS) $10
84 NM/M98 (GS) $10
85 NM/M98 (GS) $10
86 NM/M98 (GS) $10
87 NM/M98 (GS) $10
88 NM/M98 (GS) $10
89 NM/M98 (GS) $10
90 NM/M98 (GS) $10
91 NM/M98 (GS) $10
92 NM/M98 (GS) $10
93 NM/M98 (GS) $10
94 NM/M98 (GS) $10
95 NM/M98 (GS) $10
96 NM/M98 (GS) $10
97 NM/M98 (GS) $10
98 NM/M98 (GS) $10
99 NM/M98 (GS) $10

CONAN ANNUAL
1 NM/M98 (GS) $25
3 NM/M98 (GS) $10

CONAN GIANT SIZE SPECIAL
1 NM/M $15

CREATURES ON THE LOOSE
11 NM/M98 (GS) $10
12 NM/M98 (GS) $10
13 NM/M98 (GS) $10
19 NM/M98 (GS) $10
23 NM/M98 (GS) $10
24 NM/M98 (GS) $10
25 NM/M98 (GS) $10
26 NM/M98 (GS) $10
29 NM/M98 (GS) $10
30 NM/M98 (GS) $10
31 NM/M98 (GS) $10
32 NM/M98 (GS) $10
33 NM/M98 (GS) $10
34 NM/M98 (GS) $10
35 NM/M98 $10
36 NM/M98 (GS) $10
37 NM/M98 (GS) $10

DAREDEVIL
1 VF $1,100
1 VF/NM90 (GS) $1,850
2 NM93 (GS) $520
2 VF/NM90 $500
3 NM92 $350
3 NM93 (GS) $350
4 NM93 (GS) $320
4 VF+88 $275
5 NM93 $225
5 VF+86 $175
6 NM91 $155
8 NM94 (GS) $200
9 NM94 $100
10 NM+95 (GS) $150
11 NM+96 (GS) $150
11 NM94 $95
12 NM+95 (GS) $150
12 VF+86 $50
13 NM+97 (GS) $150
14 NM94 (GS) $113
14 VF/NM90 $75
15 NM94 $95
15 VG+ $65
20 VF+88 $40
21 F/VF $22
22 VF $27
22 VF/NM $38
23 VF+ $32
24 VF/NM90 $30
25 VF $25
25 VF/NM90 $38
26 F/VF $22
26 VF/NM90 $35
28 NM92 $42
28 NM94 $45
29 VF/NM90 $38
30 NM94 $45
32 VF+ $25
32 VG+ $9
33 VG+ $9
33 VF/NM90 $28
35 VF $20
35 VF+ $25
36 NM/M98 (GS) $63
36 VF/NM90 $28
37 VF/NM90 $28
39 VF/NM90 $28
40 NM/M98 (GS) $63
40 VF/NM90 $28
41 VF/NM90 $20
42 VF/NM90 $20
44 VF+ $18
45 VF $15
46 NM/M98 (GS) $45
46 VF $15
47 VF+ $17
47 VF/NM $20
48 F+ $13
48 VF/NM90 $20
49 VF $15
50 VF/NM90 $24
51 VF/NM90 $24
52 NM/M98 (GS) $50
52 VF $17
53 NM/M98 (GS) $50
53 NM94 $30
54 VF+ $10
55 F+ $7
55 VF+ $10
56 VF+ $10
58 NM94 $15
59 VF/NM90 $11
60 VF+ $8
61 VF/NM90 $10
62 VF/NM90 $10
63 VF/NM90 $10
66 VF $7
68 VF $7
68 VF/NM90 $10
69 VF $7
70 VF/NM90 $10
73 VF $7
74 VF $7
75 VF+ $8
76 VF $7
78 NM94 $15
79 VF/NM $10
80 NM94 $15
82 NM+96 $20
83 NM+96 $20
84 NM+96 $20
85 VF $7
88 VF $7
123 NM/M98 (GS) $13
134 NM/M98 (GS) $10
136 NM/M98 (GS) $10
137 NM/M98 (GS) $10
138 NM/M98 (GS) $18
139 NM/M98 (GS) $10
140 NM/M98 (GS) $10
142 NM/M98 (GS) $10
143 NM/M98 (GS) $10
147 NM/M98 (GS) $10
148 NM/M98 (GS) $10
149 NM/M98 (GS) $10
151 NM/M98 (GS) $10
152 NM/M98 (GS) $10
153 NM/M98 (GS) $10
154 NM/M98 (GS) $10
155 NM/M98 (GS) $10
156 NM/M98 (GS) $10
157 NM/M98 (GS) $10
159 NM/M98 (GS) $45

DAREDEVIL ANNUAL
1 NM94 $48
2 NM94 (GS) $14
4 NM/M98 (GS) $10

DEFENDERS
22 NM/M98 (GS) $10
23 NM/M98 (GS) $10
24 NM/M98 (GS) $10
25 NM/M98 (GS) $10
26 NM/M98 (GS) $13
27 NM/M98 (GS) $13
28 NM/M98 (GS) $13
29 NM/M98 (GS) $13
30 NM/M98 (GS) $10
31 NM/M98 (GS) $10
32 NM/M98 (GS) $10
33 NM/M98 (GS) $10
34 NM/M98 (GS) $10
35 NM/M98 (GS) $10
36 NM/M98 (GS) $10
37 NM/M98 (GS) $10
38 NM/M98 (GS) $10
39 NM/M98 (GS) $10
40 NM/M98 (GS) $10
41 NM/M98 (GS) $10
42 NM/M98 (GS) $10
45 NM/M98 (GS) $10

DOC SAVAGE
4 NM/M98 (GS) $10
5 NM/M98 (GS) $15
6 NM/M98 (GS) $15
7 NM/M98 (GS) $15
8 NM/M98 (GS) $15

DOCTOR STRANGE
1 NM/M98 (GS) $80
2 NM/M98 (GS) $43
4 NM/M98 (GS) $15
6 NM/M98 (GS) $10
7 NM/M98 (GS) $10
8 NM/M98 (GS) $10
9 NM/M98 (GS) $10
11 NM/M98 (GS) $10
15 NM/M98 (GS) $10
16 NM/M98 (GS) $10
18 NM/M98 (GS) $10
20 NM/M98 (GS) $10
169 NM- $135
169 NM/M98 (GS) $250
170 NM/M98 (GS) $70
170 NM94 (WP) $55
170 NM+96 (WP) $55
171 NM/M98 (GS) $70
172 VG- $10
174 NM/M $55
174 NM/M98 (GS) $70
175 NM94 (WP) $55
180 NM/M98 (GS) $63
180 NM94 (WP) $40
181 NM/M98 (GS) $63
183 NM93 (WP) $40

DOCTOR STRANGE ANNUAL
1 NM/M98 (GS) $10

FANTASTIC FOUR
1 F/F+ $3,500
1 VG+ $2,000
2 VG $600
4 F/VF $1,150
5 VG+ $650
7 VF- (GS) $325
8 FR $45
8 FR/G $65
10 F+ (GS) $290
10 VF $500
11 F+ $265
11 VF- (GS) $300
13 G+ $75
14 VF+ $275
14 VF82 (GS) $195
15 VF $200
15 VF82 (GS) $195
16 VG/FR $105
17 F+ $155
17 VF+ $275
18 VF/NM90 $325
18 VF/NM90 (GS) $290
20 NM92 $400
20 VF/NM90 (GS) $310
22 VF/NM90 $150
23 VF+ $120
25 F/VF $180
25 NM91 (GS) $400
26 VF82 (GS) $250
26 VG $85
27 NM91 $150
27 NM91 (GS) $200
29 VF/NM9 (GS) $105
30 VF+ $100
30 VF+88 $100
32 NM92 $110
32 VF+89 $90
33 VF $65
33 VG+ $30
34 F+ $45
34 VF+86 $80
35 NM+96 (GS) $180
35 VF/NM90 $90
38 NM93 $150
39 NM92 $125
41 NM+96 $120
41 NM92 $75
43 F+ $32
43 VF/NM $60
44 NM+96 $90
44 NM+96 $120
48 VF/NM89 (GS) $800
48 VG+ $215
49 F+ $120
49 VF84 $150
50 NM93 $300
50 VF $200
51 VF+ $45
52 NM+96 (GS0 $190
52 NM93 $175
53 VF $60
55 VF+88 $70
55 VF/NM90 $75
56 NM94 $75
56 VF+ $60
57 VF/NM90 $63
58 F+ $34
59 NM92 $70
60 VF $45
61 VF/NM90 $42
62 NM94 $63
63 NM94 $63
66 VG $26
67 VF+ $90
68 F+ $52
68 VG $11
69 NM93 $50
69 NM94 $63
70 F+ $22
70 VF+ $35
71 G $4
76 NM+95 $50
77 NM92 $40
77 VG/F $12
78 F+ $17
78 NM/M98 (GS) $88
79 NM/M98 (GS) $88
79 VG $8
80 NM+96 $65
80 VF+ $28
81 F+ $13
81 NM/M98 (GS) $63
82 NM/M98 (GS) $63
88 F+ $13
92 NM94 $24
93 NM/M98 (GS) $50
93 VG $5
95 NM/M98 (GS) $50
96 NM/M98 (GS) $50
103 NM/M98 (GS) $55
150 NM/M98 (GS) $23
167 NM/M98 (GS) $120
175 NM/M98 (GS) $10
178 NM/M98 (GS) $10
181 NM/M98 (GS) $10
182 NM/M98 (GS) $10
183 NM/M98 (GS) $10
184 NM/M98 (GS) $10
185 NM/M98 (GS) $10
186 NM/M98 (GS) $10
187 NM/M98 (GS) $10
191 NM/M98 (GS) $10
192 NM/M98 (GS) $10
193 NM/M98 (GS) $10
194 NM/M98 (GS) $10
195 NM/M98 (GS) $10
196 NM/M98 (GS) $10
197 NM/M98 (GS) $10
198 NM/M98 (GS) $10
199 NM/M98 (GS) $10
201 NM/M98 (GS) $10
202 NM/M98 (GS) $10
203 NM/M98 (GS) $10
205 NM/M98 (GS) $10
206 NM/M98 (GS) $10

FANTASTIC FOUR ANNUAL
1 VF/NM90 (GS) $600
2 NM94 (GS) $500
2 VF/NM90 $500
3 VF/NM90 $250
7 VF $15
9 NM- (GS) $12
13 NM/M98 (GS) $13

FANTASY MASTERPIECES
1 VG+ $14
2 F+ $10
2 NM+95 (GS) $28
3 NM+97 (GS) $28
3 NM94 $27
4 F+ $10
4 VF $10
6 NM94 $27
11 NM94 $27

FEAR
20 NM/M98 (GS) $25

GHOST RIDER
1 NM/M98 (GS) $163
2 NM/M98 (GS) $63
3 NM/M98 (GS) $38
4 NM/M98 (GS) $38
5 NM/M98 (GS) $38
6 NM/M98 (GS) $25
7 NM/M98 (GS) $25
8 NM/M98 (GS) $25
9 NM/M98 (GS) $25
10 NM/M98 (GS) $25
11 NM/M98 (GS) $18
12 NM/M98 (GS) $18
13 NM/M98 (GS) $18
14 NM/M98 (GS) $18
15 NM/M98 (GS) $18
16 NM/M98 (GS) $18
17 NM/M98 (GS) $18
18 NM/M98 (GS) $18
19 NM/M98 (GS) $18
20 NM/M98 (GS) $23
21 NM/M98 (GS) $13
22 NM/M98 (GS) $13

GIANT SIZE CHILLERS
1 NM/M $13
3 NM/M98 (GS) $10

GIANT SIZE CONAN
1 NM/M98 (GS) $18
2 NM/M98 (GS) $15
3 NM/M98 (GS) $10
4 NM/M98 (GS) $10
5 NM/M98 (GS) $10

GIANT SIZE DEFENDERS
2 NM/M98 (GS) $15
3 NM/M98 (GS) $13

GIANT SIZE DRACULA
3 NM/M98 (GS) $10
5 NM/M98 (GS) $20

GIANT SIZE MAN-THING
1 NM/M98 (GS) $15
3 NM/M98 (GS) $10

GIANT SIZE SPIDER-MAN
1 NM/M98 (GS) $63

GIANT SIZE SUPERHEROES
1 NM/M98 (GS) $100

GIANT SIZE X-MEN
1 VF+ $350
1 VF/NM $375
2 NM/M98 (GS) $113

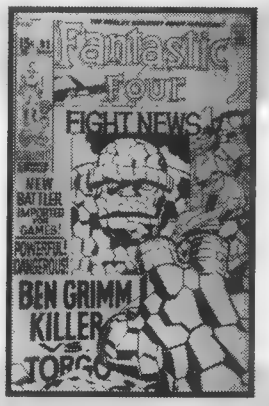
HERO FOR HIRE
6 NM/M98 (GS) $13
7 NM/M98 (GS) $13
8 NM/M98 (GS) $13
9 NM/M98 (GS) $13
11 NM/M98 (GS) $10
12 NM/M98 (GS) $10
14 NM/M98 (GS) $10
16 NM/M98 (GS) $10

HOWARD THE DUCK
3 NM/M98 (GS) $10
4 NM/M98 (GS) $10
5 NM/M98 (GS) $10
6 NM/M98 (GS) $10
8 NM/M98 (GS) $10

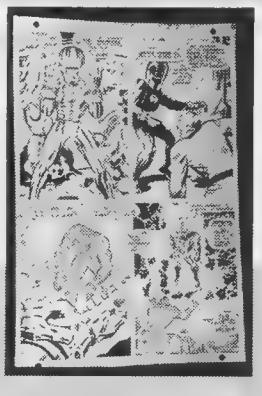
HOWARD THE DUCK ANNUAL
1 NM/M98 (GS) $10

INCREDIBLE HULK
1 FR/G $650
1 VG/VG+ (GS) $1,800
2 F+ $850
2 VG+ $480
3 VF+88 $1,200
4 F+ $480
4 VF $825
5 F+ $480
5 F/VF $500
6 F/VF $750
6 VF84 $1,000
102 NM/M98 (GS) $375
102 NM94 $200
103 NM+96 $125
103 NM/M98 (GS) $170
104 NM+96 $115
104 NM/M98 (GS) $155
105 NM/M98 (GS) $113
105 NM94 $70
106 NM/M98 (GS) $113
106 VF/NM90 $52
107 NM+96 $85
107 NM94 $70
108 NM/M98 (GS) $113
108 NM94 $70

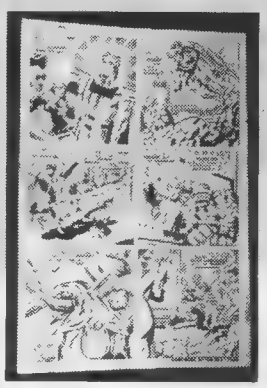
THE ART OF JACK KIRBY



Fantastic Four #92 original cover art. November 1969 $1,750



Fantastic Four #78, page 17. Human Torch vs. The Wizard! September 1968 $750



Fantastic Four #94, page 18. FF defeat Sandman & the Wizard! January 1970, autographed. $900

Thor #152, page 3. Thor vs. The Destroyer! May 1968, autographed. $750

Thor #152, page 4. Thor vs. The Destroyer, as Odin looks on! May 1968 $750

Thor #170, page 18. Thor battles the Thermal Man!

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By Maggie Thompson

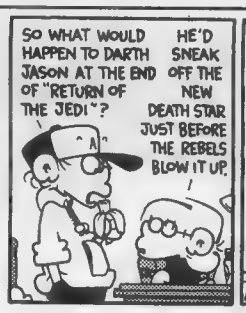
Strips! Clip them out of newspapers, buy them in collections, or — subscribe to them in clusters. Subscribing lets you file them in manageable chunks and doesn't require daily amputation from sheets of surrounding newsprint. Recommended before — but it's never too often — are magazines from Manuscript Press (which runs old and new — here's a sample of Kirby's *Sky Masters*) and Page One (including *Dilbert*, see Page 26). The latter offers other funny stuff, too, in *Comic Relief*. But it's the hard-to-find strips and cartoons that make these labors of love must-buys.

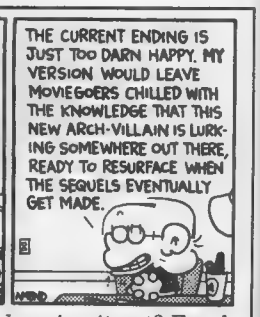
Fan of Dale Messick? (See Page 44.) Paper-doll buff? Looking for a gift for a child? Intrigued by the variety of material in old comic strips? Consider the three paperbacks of black-and-white paper-doll pleasure to be had in these "gloom chasers." The editor and designer is Shel Dorf who, as ever, did a terrific job in producing a multi-purpose comics project. (And you can photocopy the pages, keeping the original intact.)

It came out some time ago but is still available: the *Li'l Abner* volume showing off, not only Al Capp's characters, but also Frank Frazetta's hand on the strip. An advantage to buying strip reprints is that they tend to stay in print — but don't let that delay your purchase. *Abner* is a classic, and you *can* start with #1.

Brenda Starr's paper dolls wore underwear — but in the *Sally Forth* comic strip the heroine (and many other young women) often appear in less than that. This is the complete strip — and it shows Wally Wood at his most exuberant, as he demonstrates his skills at telling stories involving cartoony characters, incredible backgrounds, terrific machinery, wild comedy, and luscious women. This was intended for G.I. readers, and few plots get far along before her clothes are discarded. Nicola Cuti also worked on it — and provides the foreword. And Bill Pearson provides more illumination. It's a lovely package for a lovely protagonist who exposes herself — *and* Wood's mastery.

A couple of years ago, Kurt Busiek pointed out that Andrews McMeel is America's biggest comics publisher. Creators whose strips are represented include Scott Adams, Bill Amend, Tom Batiuk, Michael Fry, Bud Grace, Cathy Guisewite, Lynn Johnston, Gary Larson, Joe Martin, Pat Oliphant, Dan Piraro, Charles Schulz, G.B. Trudeau, Jim Unger, Jerry Van Amerongen, Bill Watterson, and Tom Wilson. Given all that, is the company just churning it out? Frankly, the company displays a lot of care — and the compilations almost universally are good for laughs. They all seem to be focus on gag strips which provide dependable laughs, though the Recognition Factor (see this week's interview with Adams) is strong on several. Comics fans will find strange RF high from Amend's *Fox Trot* (above) and Grace's *Ernie* (left). Still, it would be nice if the collections were complete and included © and date.


SO WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO DARTH JASON AT THE END OF "RETURN OF THE JEDI"?
HE'D SNEAK OFF THE NEW DEATH STAR JUST BEFORE THE REBELS BLOW IT UP.


THE CURRENT ENDING IS JUST TOO DARN HAPPY. MY VERSION WOULD LEAVE MOVIEGOERS CHILLED WITH THE KNOWLEDGE THAT THIS NEW ARCH-VILLAIN IS LURKING SOMEWHERE OUT THERE, READY TO RESURFACE WHEN THE SEQUELS EVENTUALLY GET MADE.

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Andrews McMeel: ***Ernie Out of Control ...*** by Bud Grace (1996, ISBN 0-8362-2123-0, $9.95); ***Come Closer, Roger, There's a Mosquito on Your Nose*** by Bill Amend (1997, ISBN 0-8362-3656-4, $9.95). Fantagraphics: ***The Compleat Sally Forth*** by Wallace Wood (1998, ISBN 1-56097-287-4, $19.95). Kitchen Sink: ***Li'l Abner*** #22 (1956, 1995, ISBN 0-87816-271-2, $20.95). Manuscript Press, P.O. Box 336, Mountain Home, TN 37684: ***Comics Revue*** #144 (1998, $5.95). Off the Wall (16429 Avalon Ave., Victorville, CA 92392): ***Dale Messick Cut-Outs and Coloring Book*** #1-3 (1997, 1997, 1998, $9.95@). Page One, P.O. Box 6606, Eureka, CA 95502): ***Comic Relief*** #103-104 (May & June 1998, $4.95@).

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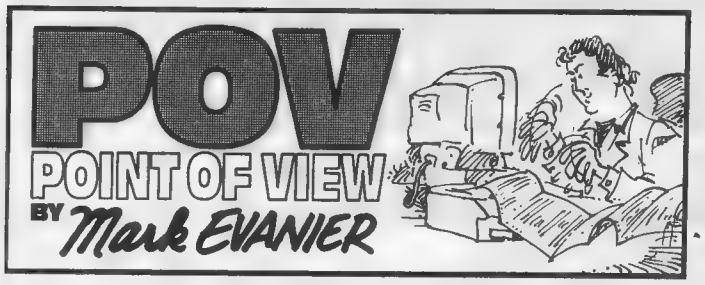


"You want to know how small the plane was? We had to detour *en route* so the pilot could chase Cary Grant through a wheatfield."

Since this one involves some horn-tooting for an Evanier enterprise, I think I should point out that the editors here asked me to write about this, to tie in with the theme of this issue. Also, remember that I've written almost 200 of these columns, and this is the first time I've spent more than a stray sentence on my favorite of all the TV shows on which I've worked.

"I've had loads of disasters — some of which I'll get to — but every so often, if only through dumb luck, you don't crash and burn."

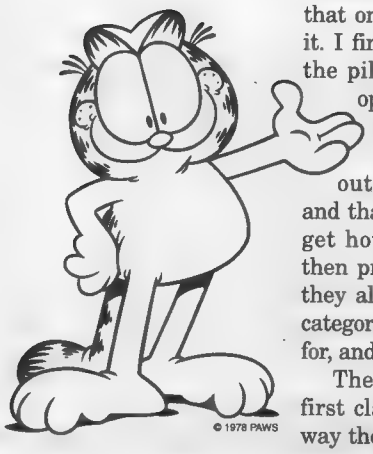
I've had loads of disasters — some of which I'll get to — but every so often, if only through dumb luck, you don't crash and burn. Actually though, this one started with a fair-sized fiasco ...

In 1987, I was hired by CBS to help develop a Saturday-morning cartoon series featuring Michael Jackson — and, hey, wouldn't he be the perfect person to star in a kids' show these days? This was, after all, the same network that had the Pee-Wee Herman show. Who said our young ones have no role models anymore?

Michael was very nice to me but thoroughly uninterested in seeing the show happen. Though he had at some point OK'd the project, he'd since had second thoughts. Our meetings consisted largely of him explaining that he was a rock star and that it would be detrimental to his rep to be on a children's show. And, yes, I reminded him there had once been a *Jackson Five* animated series, but that was long ago and far away.

He didn't dislike cartoons, please understand. In fact, as he led me on a brief tour of his estate, past llamas and chimps, he told me how much he'd enjoyed watching the *Richie Rich* cartoon show I'd once written. I resisted the temptation to say, "*Watched* Richie Rich? Michael, you *are* Richie Rich!"

But he didn't want to be an animated character (make up your own joke) and he kept asking if I could write a Michael Jackson cartoon show in which Michael Jackson did not appear. If there was a way to pull that one off, I sure couldn't think of it. I finally decided to moonwalk off the pilot, but, before I could, CBS opted to chuck the whole thing. Smart move by CBS.



I figured at the time I was out of the animation business, and that was jes' fine with me. I forget how many studios there were then producing cartoons for TV, but they all fell into at least one of two categories: those that I wouldn't work for, and those that wouldn't hire me.

There were at least four in the first classification. I didn't like the way they did business and/or I didn't like the way they did cartoons. Usually, the two came together as a dogged determination to spend as little as possible on everything — writers, especially. One studio in particular seemed obsessed with saving every nickel, regardless of how it hurt the show or inconvenienced the talent.

The result was a series of bad shows, most of which failed miserably. The studio was like an aerospace company that kept building cut-rate rockets that exploded on take-off. Rather than invest a few more bucks, they continued building them A.C.A.P. — as cheap as possible — hoping to get lucky. The head honchos didn't want to believe that it sometimes takes money to make money. (General rule of thumb: Never work for a cartoon studio that has its animation done at the 99-Cent-Only Store.)

So I wouldn't work for them — and this was no great principled stand on my part: just simple self-preservation. Working for people you don't trust, on shows that will probably stink, doesn't do much for anyone's career or digestive system. I wouldn't work for a few other houses for like reason, and there were some that wanted no part of me. I was out of the animation biz — I thought.

•

Then a nice lady at CBS named Judy Price called me in. She was the Vice-President in Charge of — I forget. Children's Programming, I guess. Anyway, she was the one who shepherded the CBS Saturday a.m. line-up and she asked me that day, "What do you think about Garfield?"

What did I think about Garfield? I thought Garfield was a terrific, funny character. He was the star of a syndicated newspaper strip by Jim Davis which had popped up in paperback collections before I'd ever seen it in any L.A. paper. When the books hit the best-seller indices, I'd picked up a few and found the title feline funny and his hapless "owner" funnier. By the time the *Los Angeles Times* finally published the cat, Garfield was already appearing all over the city — on T-shirts, on notebooks, in toy stores, everywhere. There had already been a half-dozen prime-time animated specials, several of which had snagged Emmys.

I liked the shows and I liked the strip — and I was even impressed by all the Garfield Stuff one could purchase. Merchandising is anathema to many comic-strip and/or cartoon buffs, but, when I was a tot, I remember loving my Bugs Bunny lunch box and my Charlie Brown sweatshirt and I'm glad they made them. Furthermore, I remember how disappointed and cheated I felt when my love for Yogi Bear would prompt me to buy some Yogi toy and I'd wind up with a badly designed product that would fall apart if the wind shifted.

In the '70s, when I went to work for Hanna-Barbera, I found myself arguing for quality merchandise with various execs (not Bill or Joe) who said things like, "The kids don't know the difference."

One in particular seemed to think the keystone to a successful toy-merchandising campaign was to put out products as cheapo as possible and to spend as little as possible on artwork. He was eventually fired, but, while he was there, the H-B toys were shoddy junk and — surprise, surprise — nobody bought them. Guess the kids did know the difference.

When Garfield toys came along, they struck me as being of a notably high caliber. They were well-made, cleverly conceived, and well-drawn. I sensed that someone, presumably Jim Davis, believed in doing things right or not at all. If a cartoon show was going to be made with the same high standards of the Garfield dolls, I wanted in.

Judy explained that, more than anything else on God's Green Earth, she wanted to see a *Garfield* show on her schedule. Mr. Davis, however, had been balking for several years. He had written the prime-time specials, didn't have time to write a weekly series, and was reticent about letting anyone else write his cat. As long as I'd been in animation, I'd never heard of anyone turning down an offer for any reason other than that they were holding out for larger sums of currency.

"But he's become willing to at least consider it," Judy told me. "If I can find a writer he trusts, I may be able to put it together." A few days later, she had me meeting with a gent named Lee Mendelson. Lee produced the *Garfield* and *Peanuts* specials and actually ran an office that housed more Emmys than employees. The first animated show he ever produced — *A Charlie Brown Christmas* — is still, I think, the best cartoon ever made for teevee.

"Jim is fiercely protective of Garfield," Lee explained. He told me a few anecdotes, all conveying the moral that, if J.D. wasn't happy with what I did, I'd be gone faster than the cat could down a microwave lasagna.

I think he wanted to see if I'd be scared off. *Au contraire*, I was weary of folks who'd do it wrong rather than blow a deal. "The show must go on" is a maxim coined by theater owners who didn't want to have to give refunds to the audience if a performer couldn't perform. In truth, the show does *not* have to go on. If the show's not going to be any good, it's better that it *not* go on. That seemed to be Lee's attitude, as well.

Negotiations began, but I was so enthused that I didn't wait for their conclusion. I started writing. (And it was a good thing I didn't wait. The show was literally on the air for four years before my contract was finalized.)

Over the next few months, things began to fall into place. Jim came to town and was happy enough with what I'd put on paper that the deal was closed with CBS. It called for more lead time and a more lucrative budget than I'd ever seen on any cartoon series I'd worked on before. A fine animation studio named Film Roman, run by veteran producer-director Phil Roman, began assembling a crew to produce the series.

•

Before long, I found myself flying to Muncie, Indiana. That may seem like a strange destination unless you know that Jim Davis's studio is in a little town just outside of Muncie. He thought I should see the operation, meet everyone, and spend a few days brainstorming with him. Unfortunately, he did not send his private jet for me. Instead, I flew to Chicago and then shuttled to Muncie on a DC-None. You want to know how small the plane was? We had to detour *en route* so the pilot could chase Cary Grant through a wheatfield.

I have lived my entire life in a big city and taken all my trips to other big cities. I was therefore amazingly unprepared for Muncie — population, 77,216. In L.A., there are Rolodexes with more people in them.

We landed at an airport that, I swear to God, was run by one person. The only worker was a guy who sold the tickets, inspected luggage by hand (no metal detector), and ran the Budget Rent-a-Car booth, if and when the one car was available. This part is not a joke. He would also go out onto the airstrip with red flashlights and signal arriving planes how far to pull up.

I was supposed to be met by Thom Huge, who was then Jim's associate and who also performed the voice of Jon in the cartoons. Thom wasn't there yet, so I sat down in one of the four chairs in the airport's waiting room. The one employee came over and said, "I'm afraid you'll have to wait outside, sir. The airport is closing."

It was 6 in the evening. I asked, "The airport closes at 6?"

He said, "Yes. Right after the last plane of the day arrives."

(Continues on Page 47)

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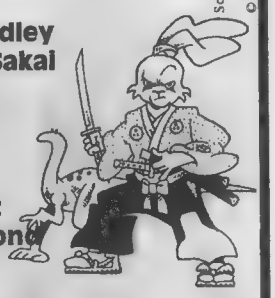

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The secrets of life and comics

DILBERT'S SCOTT ADAMS REVEALS ALL — OR SOME

By
Maggie Thompson
CBG Editor

"People don't fully appreciate that the licensed things are art forms *in themselves*."
— Scott Adams

Dilbert & company ™ and © 1998 United Feature Syndicate.

Roughly a decade ago, Scott Adams sent his *Dilbert* strip to comic-strip syndicates in hopes of finding a home for it in America's newspapers.

United Media Vice President of Comics Sarah Gillespie offered him a development contract.

The first *Dilbert* strip was published in April 1989, and its successors now make their home in more than 1700 papers. Dilbert also makes his home on bulletin boards (with strips clipped from newspapers), filing cabinets (with magnetic cartoons), computer screens (with a screen-saver calendar), desks (dolls and squeezy figures), automobile cup holders (commuter cups), "in" baskets (interoffice mail envelopes), briefcases (Day Runner personal planners), and desk drawers (pencils).

There's Dilbert stuff everywhere. More than $33 was dropped at Office Depot (which has Dilbert on its shopping bags), just picking up a few items for the cover shoot for this issue.

In a phone interview, Adams sounded appreciative. "I think that's $1.75 in my pocket."

So is Adams selling out?

"What does that mean?" he asked. "I think if you're talking about cartoonists, there are two types: those who sell out *well* and those who don't. You sell out as soon as you say, 'I will put my strip in the newspaper and go along with what the syndicate or the newspapers want in order to put it there.'

"We *all* sell out. It's just that I'm doing it far more successfully, because I embrace it. To me, the commercial aspect is part of the art."

The art of licensing

Does he market his ideas to licensees or do the licensees come to him?

"It's a little more interactive than that. *Dilbert* now has maybe 70 licensees.

"Many recognized the potential of the combination and came to us. For every one we do, there are 19 that are ill-formed or otherwise a bad fit. United Media looks at everything first — and, in discussions, sometimes a slightly different idea than the original proposal turns out to be better for everybody.

"The website really grew out of United Media and me sitting at a table over Italian food: It could be a good idea, running the strip on the web. It developed from there."

He paused and changed the focus.

"I think people don't fully appreciate that the licensed things are art forms *in themselves*.

"Think of the page-a-day, thought-a-day calendar. Whoever came up with it, that was *art*. Putting it together was something special. A lot of the things we do are obviously derivative of things others have done before, but choosing how to approach what we do is an art.

"The website project presented lots of risks which had to be taken. How do you make money at it? Do you charge people a subscription to get access to it? How much trouble will you get into with the papers? If you delay posting the strips until after they're in the papers, will you *still* get in trouble? Can you put your e-mail address in the strip?

"These are questions which seem totally ordinary now. But you needed to make a decision then *without data*. That's totally art, totally art: looking at the world and picturing the future. You jell all the options together and pick one."

He paused. "If you pick right, it's art. If you pick wrong, you're stupid."

Russell Harvey

Adams accepts the 52nd Annual Reuben Award for Outstanding Cartoonist of the Year. The Award, or a facsimile thereof, was once used as a murder weapon in an episode of ***Murder, She Wrote****.*

Three kinds of comics readers

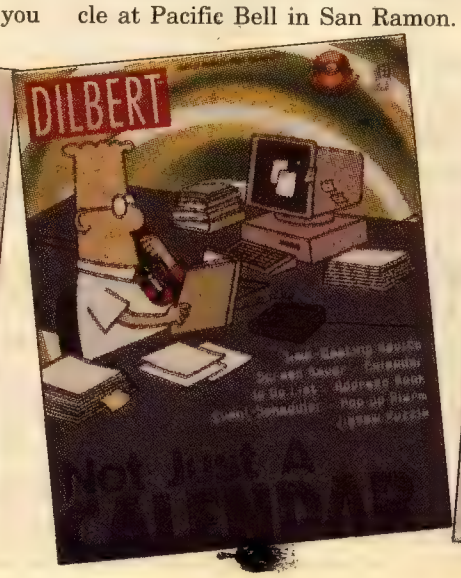
The 1992 collection of *Dilbert* cartoons *Always Postpone Meetings with Time-Wasting Morons* is filled with a fantasy world basically focusing on the home life of Dilbert and Dogbert, but the strip quickly evolved into more and more of a work-focused strip. On his website, Adams shows a cubicle at Pacific Bell in San Ramon.

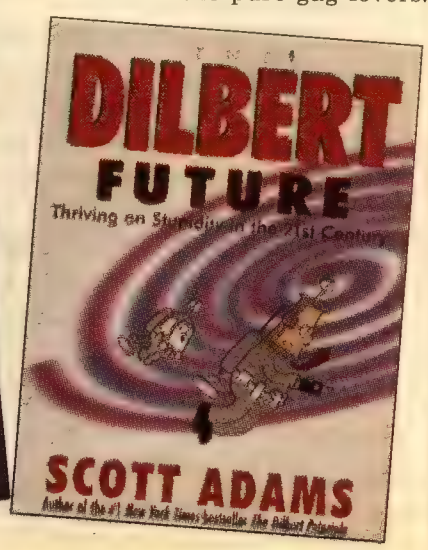
"I've been in one cubicle or another in this building since 1986. Prior to that I was in cubicles at Crocker Bank in San Francisco. I know cubicles."

When told of a reader who missed the non-business-related early days of the strip, largely gone in favor of increased cubicle coverage, Adams responded with an analysis of comics readers.

"There are essentially three kinds of comics readers — or maybe even three types of entertainment consumer. This was a total surprise for me; I'd assumed for a long time that everyone was kind of like me, but I'm in only one of the three groups.

"That's the pure gag lovers.





Dilbert licensed products include a Ratbert beanbag doll (top), a rubber squeezee Boss (above), and magnets (facing page). The licensing phenomenon has spread to the point that the engineer even graces the bags at Office Depot (immediate right).

In addition to books, like ***The Dilbert Future*** *(far right), the property has expanded into the world of multimedia with computer programs such as the Not Just a Calendar program (middle right).*

They wouldn't care if your setting was Mars. A gag is a gag, if it's well-crafted. It doesn't even need to be well-drawn. That's 20% of comic-strip readers.

"Then there are the art people, who require the strip to be well drawn — and, if it's not, it's not funny. And if something is well drawn, they'll think it's funny even if it's not. They just say, 'My favorite cartoon is *X*,' no matter what's happening. That's another 20% of readers.

"The biggest group, the third group, I discovered by accident — thanks to feedback I'm getting via e-mail. They don't know a gag when they see it. They don't know great art when they see it. But if it applies to their lives, they love it. Recognition is everything to them. And it's 60% of the readers."

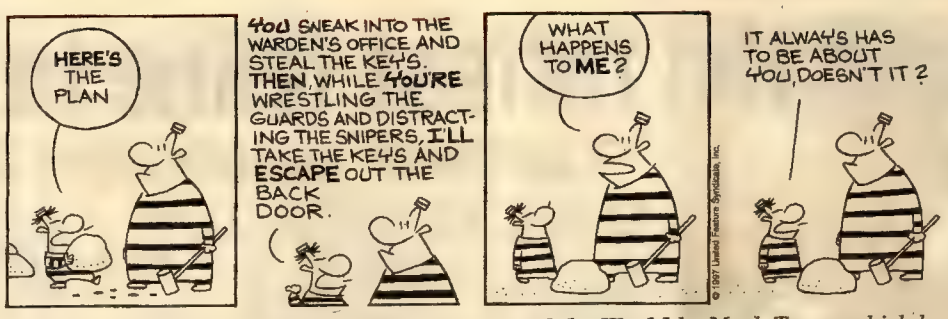
Adams said some comic strips have managed to reach all three audiences. "Bill Watterson had all three. *Peanuts* too, to some extent."

But the existence of the three audiences is something cartoonists might want to keep in mind. Adams continued, "My favorite cartoon right now is *Top of the World!*, about two guys in prison. It's incredibly well drawn, very clever. The creator, Mark Tonra, can get the 20 and the 20 — but he *risks missing the 60*, except for readers who are in prison."

Adams paused. "But he has a vision. This is the way he sees it. In a way, I'd be delighted if I were completely wrong, because I want *Top of the World!* to do well."

When the topic of *Pogo* came up, he said he wondered if there could be a *Pogo* now, since it depended so largely on elements that were not a part of readers' lives and interests. "I think that 60% recognition group wouldn't get it. It'd be too —" He paused. "Extrospective. Have we just coined a word?"

He commented on the negative feedback he receives from his e-mail. "Readers who say, 'I hate your cartoon,' go on to fall into two camps. There are the ones who go on to say, 'My favorite cartoons are' — and what they cite are exquisitely


HERE'S THE PLAN
YOU SNEAK INTO THE WARDEN'S OFFICE AND STEAL THE KEYS. THEN, WHILE YOU'RE WRESTLING THE GUARDS AND DISTRACTING THE SNIPERS, I'LL TAKE THE KEYS AND ESCAPE OUT THE BACK DOOR.
WHAT HAPPENS TO ME?
IT ALWAYS HAS TO BE ABOUT YOU, DOESN'T IT?
© 1997 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

What's Scott Adams' favorite cartoon? It's ***Top of the World*** *by Mark Tonra, which began March 2 and features the antics of Mugs (the little guy) and Knuckles (his larger — and sillier — partner) at Longshot Prison.*

drawn, like *Prince Valiant*. And there are the gag people who are complaining I left my roots. 'Your best arc ever was when Dilbert was killed.' They'll *never* like the business stuff.

"And the business people will often pick the worst ones I've ever done. A strip which might have had as its punchline, 'Yow! I'm an accountant and my hair's on fire!' would elicit the response, 'That strip with the accountant with his hair on fire is my favorite! Oh, did I mention I'm an accountant?'

"My ability is to figure out my customers and give them what they want. I insist on the right to call art whatever I want to call it.

"Simply drawing poorly or getting away from pure gags: That's OK, because that's part of my master plan."

The best advice

In the comics industry, in which licensed spin-offs are a goal many lust after and few achieve, what tips is Adams willing to share? "The best advice I can give," he said, "takes a while to explain, and no one has ever heard it yet. I tell interviewers, but it sounds too long and weird, so no one has printed it.

"You treat your career like any investment portfolio. You try lots of things. When you're young, you can afford to take lots of risks. It's a case of trying different things, one thing after another: allowing luck to happen.

"As far as the cartooning thing goes: I can't give advice on how to make cartooning work. It's just one of several things I tried that, if they'd worked, would have *also* made me equally rich and famous."

Adams, as he posts on his website (which, he says there, is "the most self-indulgent, egotistical thing I have ever done in my life. But the day is young. I can top it."), applied to and was rejected by the Famous Artists School when he was 11. In fact, he displays on his website letters of rejection he received from a number of publications to which he submitted material in earlier days.

While he makes light of such failures, they also represent the embodiment of his advice.

"When you're looking for what you're going to do, you need to find a basket of things which plays to your strengths.

"I considered what I knew about myself: I had a sort of unusual split personality — when I took the SAT test, I had equal scores in verbal and math. Most people favor one over the other.

"So I tried creating software games, because I could couple verbal skills with abilities in quantitative things. That didn't work for a number of reasons.

"So I tried *inventing* things, because I thought I could think up things that no one else had thought of and could make good business decisions to market them. That also didn't work. Several different times."

So cartooning was next.

Since he'd had an interest in the field for years (remember that early rejection from the Famous Artists School) and the idea had been in the back of his mind, Adams asked the question, "How do you pursue a rational path?"

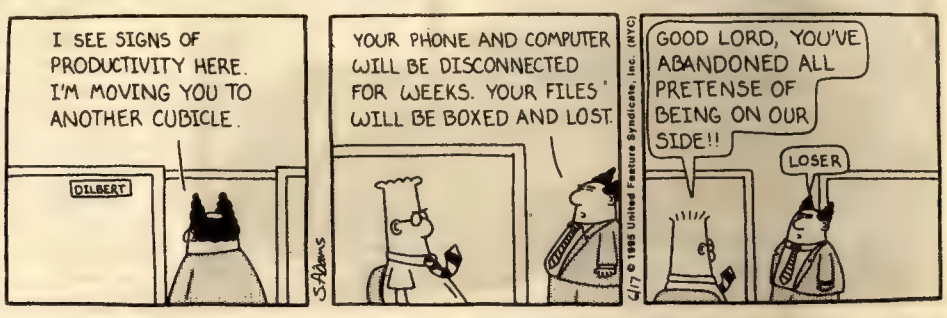
What is life?

"People view life like a slot machine," he said. "They think you gamble and gamble and, if you gamble long enough, you may go home broke.

"Life's more like lifting weights. You try one thing and maybe something that's tougher, and, even if you can't handle something today, you gradually get stronger and better able to succeed at the next challenge.

"Why *wouldn't* you try to do something, if the only thing you'd have to lose is embarrassment if you fail?"

The recognition factor hit the ***CBG*** *offices in 1995, when this strip ran the same day* ***CBG*** *staffers had to move to other cubicles. When Adams was informed of this, he simply responded, "Ah, another psychic connection." Such occurrences are obviously routine for him.*


I SEE SIGNS OF PRODUCTIVITY HERE. I'M MOVING YOU TO ANOTHER CUBICLE.
DILBERT
YOUR PHONE AND COMPUTER WILL BE DISCONNECTED FOR WEEKS. YOUR FILES WILL BE BOXED AND LOST.
GOOD LORD, YOU'VE ABANDONED ALL PRETENSE OF BEING ON OUR SIDE!!
LOSER
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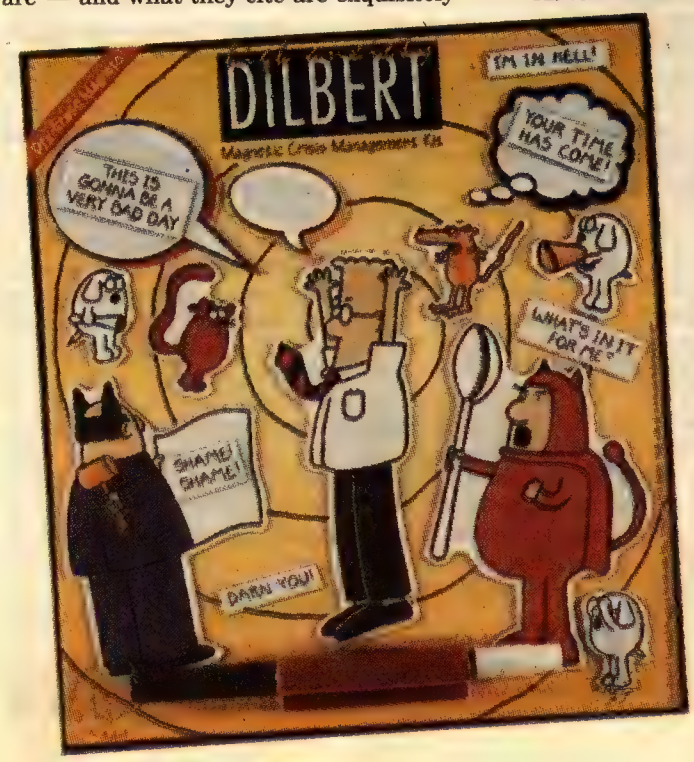


Dilbert takes meetings. Since *Dilbert* has infiltrated almost every office in the nation in the form of posted clippings and calendars, it's only natural that the strip's cast of characters appear increasingly on tools of the office. The Cedco Publishing Company has produced three more Dilbert-themed products designed to be simultaneously helpful and subversive in an office environment:

The Dilbert Meeting Book: Exceeding Tech Limits (112 pages) is a spiral-bound notebook containing cartoons, stickers, and other distractions to help make it through such occasions as meetings, conferences, presentations, and seminars. Included are a Dilbert necktie bookmark, Dilbert character stickers, and pockets for holding the unavoidable flurry of agendas, hand-outs, and memos. Each two-page spread features both lined and graphed paper for taking notes, a Dilbert cartoon strip, Dilbert character illustrations, and a place for recording lists like: "Tasks to Dump on Others," "Words That Sound Naughty but Aren't," and "People Not as Smart as I." The book is available in an 8x11″ format for $19.95 and a 5 1/2x8 1/2″ format for $12.95.

The Dilbert Book of Days: Trapped in a Dilbert World is a scheduler featuring Dilbert character art, cartoons, and a necktie bookmark. The 136-page hardcover is priced at $17.95.

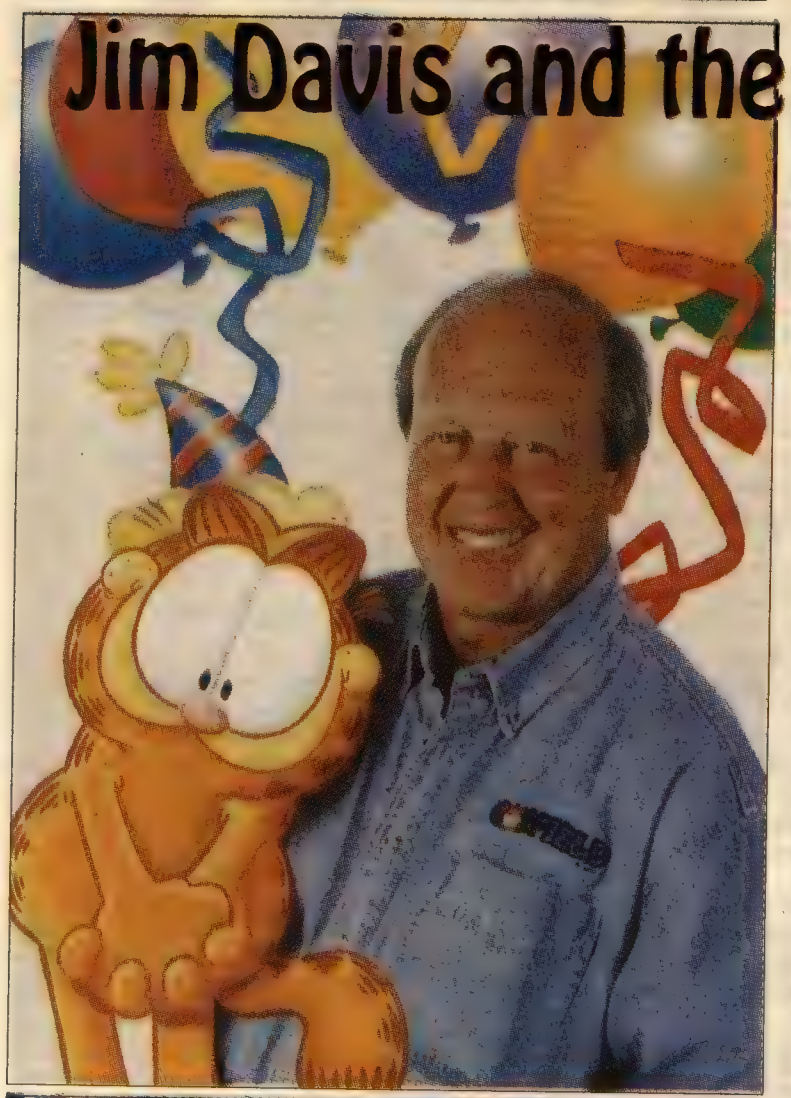
The Dilbert Address Book offers a laugh per letter and space for recording names, addresses, phone and fax numbers, and e-mail addresses. The 96-page spiral-bound book is priced at $12.95.

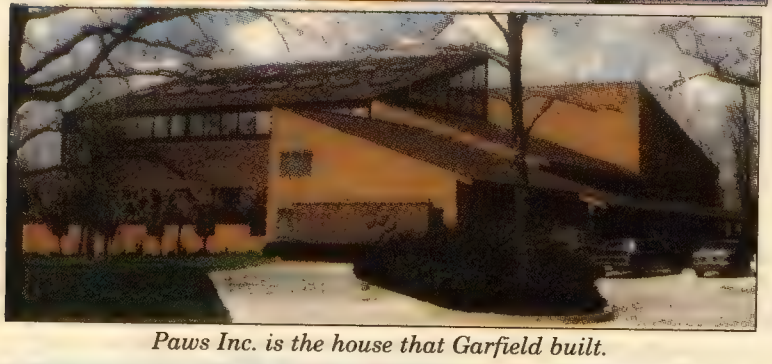
Jim Davis and the fattest feline in the funnies

'Garfield' celebrates 20 years June 19

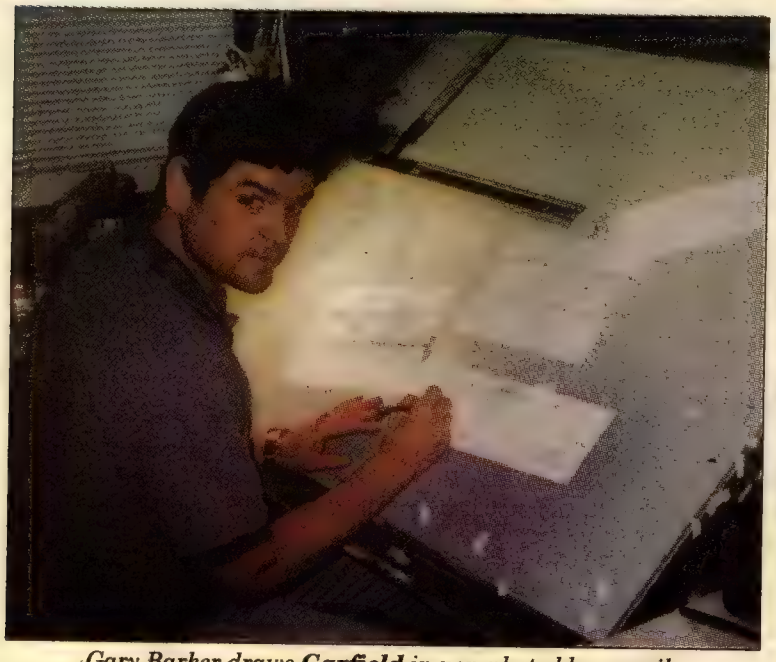
HI, THERE... I'M JON ARBUCKLE. I'M A CARTOONIST, AND THIS IS MY CAT, GARFIELD.
JIM 6-19 DAVIS
HI, THERE. I'M GARFIELD. I'M A CAT, AND THIS IS MY CARTOONIST, JON.
OUR ONLY THOUGHT IS TO ENTERTAIN YOU.
FEED ME.

Garfield and Jon first appeared June 19, 1978. Garfield later discovered Ultra Slim-Fast.





Paws Inc. is the house that Garfield built.



*Gary Barker draws **Garfield** in non-photo blue pencil.*

By R.C. Harvey

Most cats have nine lives. Garfield has more than 2,550, one in each of the newspapers to which Jim Davis' comic strip is distributed worldwide. Arguably the most widely circulated comic strip in syndicate history, *Garfield* has won four Emmys for television specials, appeared in scores of reprint volumes — seven of which were simultaneously on the *New York Times* bestseller list in 1982 (an unprecedented record), is published by 67 different book publishers, and is represented by 24 agents in licensing and merchandising in 111 countries.

Next summer, Garfield will get his own corner of a theme park being built just southwest of Indianapolis: a $120 million project on 502 acres. And China is poised to develop 50 Garfield-themed restaurants over the next five years.

If Davis' fat, lazy orange striped cat didn't already have a name, *Ubiquitous* might well serve.

Garfield reaches his 20th anniversary June 19, and, on the eve of that event (actually, in April 1998), I visited the cat's creator at his lair, the headquarters for Paws, the corporation Davis created in 1981 to handle licensing of his characters.

Here a staff of nearly 60 people keep the Garfield empire humming. Eighteen artists, writers, and sculptors work with Davis to generate material for books, greeting cards, apparel, giftware, stationery, games, and the like. A marketing and business staff keeps Garfield in the marketplace and protects the copyright as well as the "character" of the creation. All Garfield images are created at Paws. Licensees cannot make changes without permission, and Paws has developed its own computer software to track product development for approval.

In addition to the offices, the building houses its own cafeteria, fully equipped exercise room, and a spacious workroom for the artists. Nearby on the Paws property are two more buildings: Davis' personal studio and the animation-recording studio.

From the basement to the big time. Two decades ago, Davis started producing *Garfield* in the basement of his home in Muncie, Indiana. The strip made its debut in 41 newspapers. Davis had one assistant.

We sat in the atrium of the 36,000 square-foot building Garfield had built in the gently rolling countryside near Muncie — and talked about cartooning the cat.

Garfield was in 2,000 newspapers by 1987. Only two other comic strips had achieved that kind of circulation (*Blondie* and *Peanuts*). And *Garfield* was not yet 10 years in syndication. It was a phenomenal occurrence.

"I'd always wanted the security of being able to do this for a long, long time," Davis said, "so when I hit the 2,000 papers, I thought, 'OK — I'm going to be around for a while.' And this is great! Also it's very gratifying to know that what you're creating is being enjoyed by a lot of people."

As the Garfield empire grew, more and more of Davis' time was devoted to the multiplicity of projects and products that the cat generated. He's very much a hands-on creative director as well as chief executive officer of Paws. I asked him if he sometimes wished the enterprise weren't quite so huge, so he could devote more time to drawing.

"Yes," he said, "one reason I grew this pony tail is to remind myself that I'm an artist, not a businessman. But I still enjoy the work. I still do the comic strip. Nothing's changed from that standpoint. I do get a thrill out of working on the other creative projects: television, even the product design, designing the dolls, working with the voices. What would Garfield say in this situation? It takes a lot of focus but it's still creating entertainment: creating humor, making people laugh. So I really enjoy two aspects — doing the comic strip and the other truly creative stuff."

His staff takes much of the burden of the business from his shoulders, so, although he's involved in every aspect of the operation, his involvement is minimal. "I know my responsibility is to Garfield," he explained, "to keep putting words into his mouth and to make sure that he stays funny and entertaining."

Visualizing gags. Davis said he focuses exclusively on the strip once a month, when, for an intensive three- or four-day period, he and a colleague brainstorm gags for a month's worth of strips. Davis described the process: "Brett Koth is a friend, a writer, who lives in Florida, and he comes up for nearly a week every month. Brett does quick sketching. He does writing. We share gags. We bounce ideas and sketches off each other. We keep the energy level high. We do a lot of laughing. We watch funny movies. We look at funny cartoons. We basically laugh for a good part of the week! And we rough the gags up."

I interrupted, "So you and Brett are sketching the ideas as you come up with them?"

"Yes," Davis said, "because I see the gag at the same time as I imagine it."

This method of idea production seemed logical to me: it supports my observation that *Garfield* is a very visual strip in which the humor frequently arises from the pictures — an action or an expression — in tandem with the words. In fact, if there were no physical movement of the characters in many strips, there'd be no gag. *Garfield*'s dependence on the visual aspects of the medium seems to me to make the strip a superior example of the art form, and I said as much to Davis: "It seems to me that there are many strips these days in which the drawings could be removed and the joke would remain — just in the verbiage," I said. "That means the medium is not being fully deployed. But you certainly use all its resources. You use the pictures as well as the words. You really make the medium work."

He laughed. "I need all the help I can get," he said.

After the strips are written —

(Continues on Page 32)

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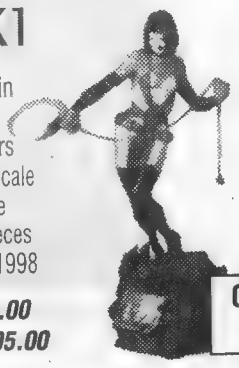

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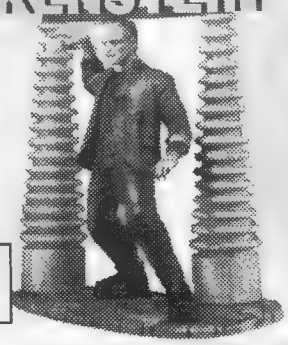

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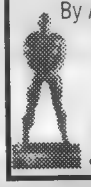

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For Sale:

Warren Original Cover Paintings

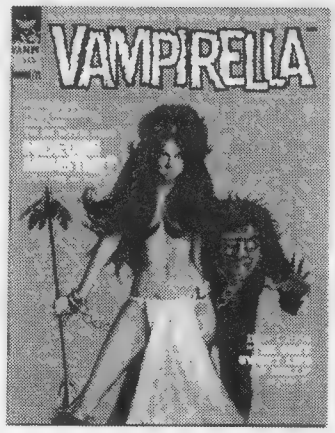
Beginning in 1959 James Warren brought the world's finest cover illustration artists to the world showcasing their work on the covers of his Famous Monsters, Eerie, Creepy and Vampirella magazine titles. The body of work represented by these artists has left a significant and permanent imprint on popular culture and the world of fantasy, horror and pinup art. Rarely is there a consensus of opinion in any field of art regarding what is the very best or most important body of work in any given era. The Warren cover artwork is a rare exception. From the beginning and throughout the Warren dynasty years the Warren artists provided ground breaking illustration art that defined the genre and era. The world's greatest illustration artists such as Frank Frazetta, Sanjullian, Enrich, Basil Gogos, Jose Gonzalez, Don Maitz, Ken Kelley, Boris Vallejo, Vaughn Bode and many others began their careers or produced their finest work as covers for Warren in an exciting new era in which new definitions of popular culture blurred the distinction between Fine Art and Illustration Art. Many of the Warren cover images are among the most reproduced and famous works of art of the era. Because of their relative recent vintage, these works have only just begun to be appreciated for their great significance as masterpieces of modern popular culture.

For collectors one of the especially appealing features of original Warren cover art is that they are actual full color oil paintings which are ideal for display. In contrast, almost all other comic and magazine cover artworks of the era were in fact line drawing works only made to appear full color in the printing process. This distinction itself underscores the revolutionary role and significance of this body of work which in the evolution of illustration art literally bridges the gap between the EC art of the early 1950's and the modern era of Heavy Metal fantasy and pinup art.

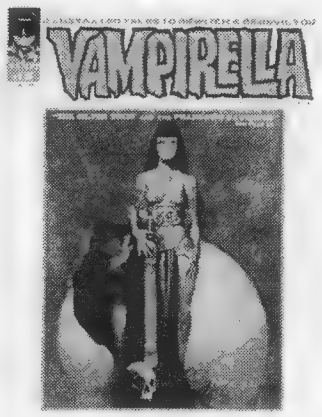
As with any artwork, value is a subjective process. There are only approximately 500 different Warren covers in total, and the whereabouts of many are unknown. The quality and significance of the piece, the stature of the artist, and how well known the image is are all factors that usually influence collectors in valuing any given illustration artwork. Some Warren paintings have sold in the very low thousands. Many have sold for $10,000 or more. The highest price ever realized for any comic book cover original artwork of any type ever was, in fact, a Warren cover ($77,000 for Vampirella #1 by Frank Frazetta at Sotheby's in 1991). Some other Frazetta Warren cover artworks, such as The Egyptian Princess (Eerie #23), would sell for considerably more if ever made available. (This masterpiece is still is the possession of the Frazetta family.)

Robert Edward Auctions is proud to make available the following selection of Warren cover artwork. This offering is especially significant as this is by far the largest selection of Warren cover art to ever be made publicly available at a single time. All paintings in this offering are illustrated by the issues on which they appeared (actual artworks do not include typesetting of course). All artwork is guaranteed to be authentic. The artworks offered are the actual original paintings appearing on each cover. Please note that no reproduction rights accompany any original.

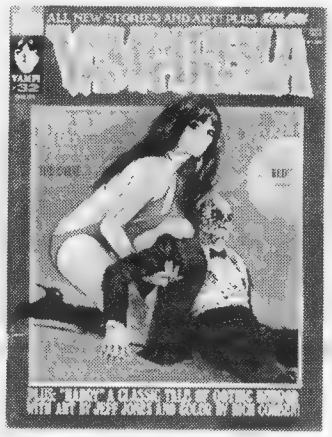
It is our strong belief that Warren cover artwork will continue to greatly appreciate in value in future years as its place and historical significance in the world of illustration art becomes all the more appreciated, and as the market for all of illustration art continues to mature. These trends make the purchase of a work of Warren cover illustration artwork both a significant addition to any art collection as well as a legitimate store of value with great potential for appreciation. We are not suggesting the purchase of any artwork for investment. We recommend buying a painting because you like it. But just as the cream rises to the top, this classic artwork that defines its era and genre will always be in increasing demand as appreciation grows for its great significance as well as museum quality display value. Today, when available, this work is still relatively affordable. It is almost certain that these works will only be more expensive and valuable in the future. PLEASE NOTE: WE ALSO BUY WARREN COVER ART ($1000 to $100,000 per painting depending on painting). Also, paying $1500 to $2500 each for Jose Gonzales Vampirella original B&W pinup illustrations. All sale prices firm. Shipping and insurance is included. NJ residents please add 6% sales tax or provide resale certificate.



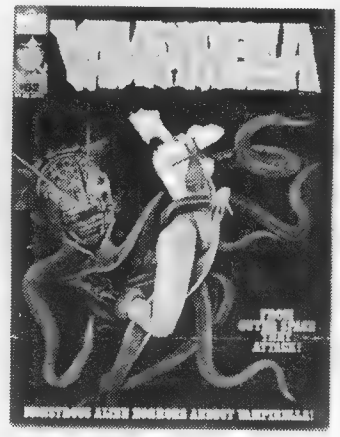
1) **Vampirella #10 Cover Art.** (Hughes, 15" x 20"). $1200.



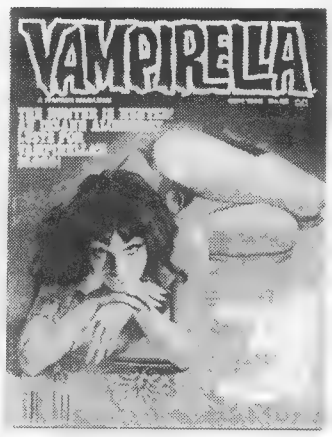
2) **Vampirella #13 Cover Art.** (Sanjulian, 16" x 20"). Extraordinary classic. This was the second of Sanjulian's 15 Vampirella covers. Beautifully framed. $6500.



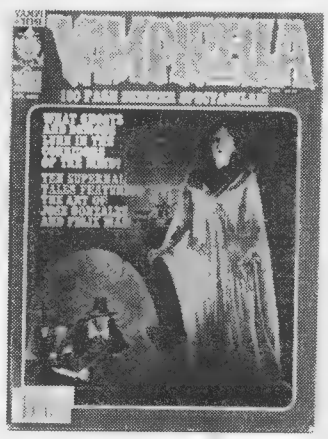
3) **Vampirella #32 Cover Art.** (Enrich, 14" x 15"). Extremely desirable example with great detail from the premier Vampirella cover artist. $5000.



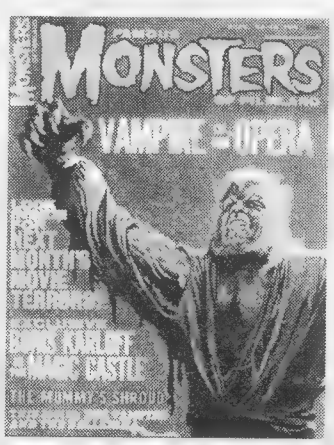
4) **Vampirella #62 Cover Art.** (Enrich, 11" x 15"). Spectacular full body pose. $5000.



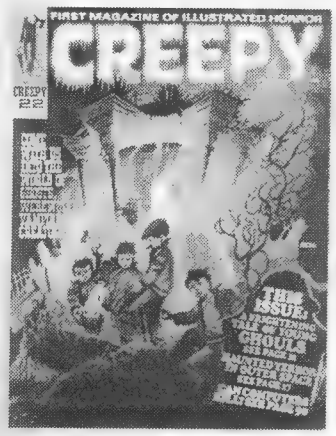
5) **Vampirella #90 Cover Art.** (Enrich, 11" x 18"). Classic Vampi pinup pose. $2000.



6) **Vampirella #109 Cover Art.** (Sanjulian, 15" x 15"). Framed. $8500.



7) **Famous Monsters #46 Cover Art.** (Adkins, 14" x 18"). $3500.



8) **Creepy #22 Cover Art.** (Sutton, 15" x 20"). $3000.

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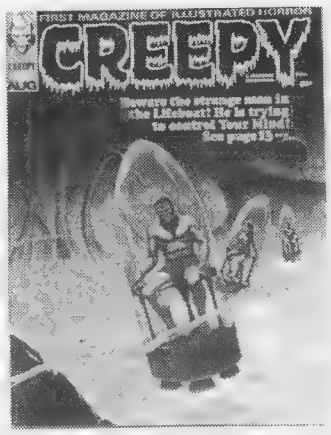
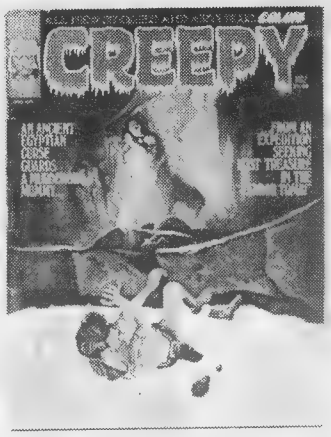
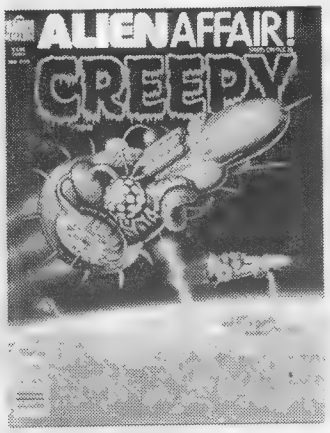


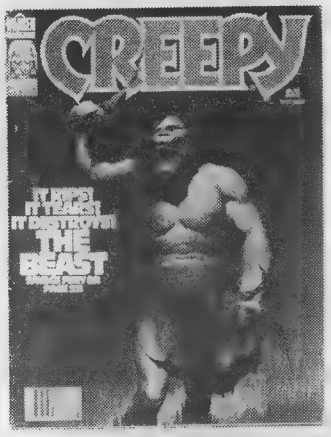
9) **Creepy #34 Cover Art.** (Ken Barr, 10 1/2" x 15 1/2"). $2500.



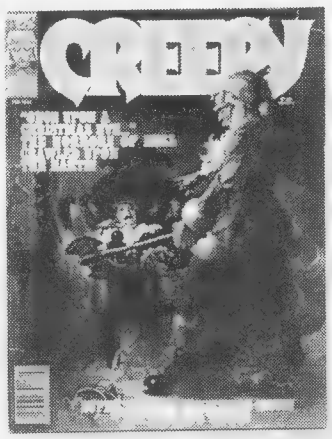
10) **Creepy #61 Cover Art.** (Sanjulian, 17" x 24"). $5000.



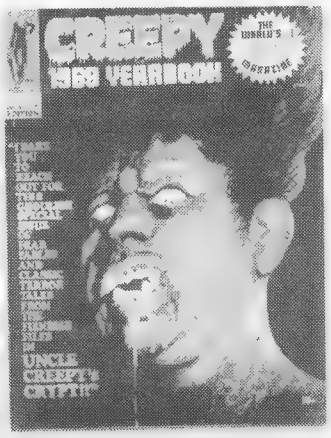
11) **Creepy #109 Cover Art.** (Laurer, 18" x 24"). $2000.



12) **Creepy #117 Cover Art.** (Ken Kelly, 20" x 30"). $3000.

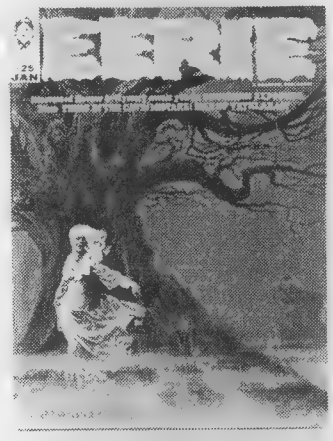


13) **Creepy #125 Cover Art.** (Ken Kelly, 21" x 27"). $3000.

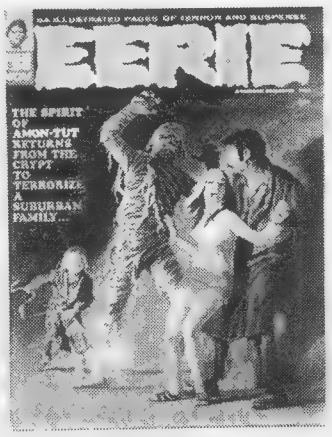


14) **Creepy 1969 Yearbook Cover Art.** (Harris, 10" x 15"). $1000.

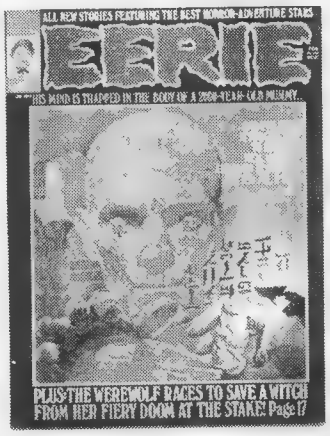
15) **Eerie #14 Cover Art.** (Prezio, 16" x 20"). $3000.



16) **Eerie #25 Cover Art.** (Jim Sterenko, 14" x 20"). Sterenko's only Warren cover. $5000.



17) **Eerie #30 Cover Art.** (Basil Gogos, 20" x 30"). $3500.



18) **Eerie #53 Cover Art.** (Sanjulian, 15" x 15"). $6500.

19) **Eerie #113 Cover Art.** (Jim Laurier, 12" x 21"). $2000.

20) **Eerie #138 Cover Art.** (Redondo, 20" x 30"). $1200.

Also available: 1) Original cover artwork to Richard Corbin's Death Rattle #1 ($6500). 2) Original interior story artwork from Mad Magazine's first Star Trek story 1964 ("Star Bleech"). This story and the splash page are among the most reproduced and recognized of all Mad art. Originally offered in the very first Mad Art auction by Christies where it sold for $3520 in 1992. ($5000). 3) Famous Monsters 1971 Yearbook Cover Art. (Basil Gogos, 16" x 20"). Gogos is universally recognized as the premier Famous Monster portrait artist. ($3500).

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A road sign announces Muncie's city limits — and Garfield's presence.

GARFIELD

(From Page 28)

sketched up — and edited for taste and translatability and so forth, the pencil roughs (some by Davis, some by Koth) are passed on to Gary Barker, who blue-lines the final art. Drawing with a non-photo blue pencil, Barker keeps the characters on model precisely. As a consequence, Garfield always looks exactly as Garfield looked the last time you saw him.

The blue-lined strips are then passed on to Eric Reaves for lettering and then to Lori Barker (no relation to Gary), who inks the strips with a Winsor & Newton Series 7 brush. For Sunday strips, color is added by other artists.

Freelancers facilities. Like almost all the artists who work at Paws, Gary Barker freelances, and, like his fellow staff members, he makes use of the facilities in the building, some of the most up-to-date graphics technology around. Most evenings and weekends, the building is occupied by freelancing staffers.

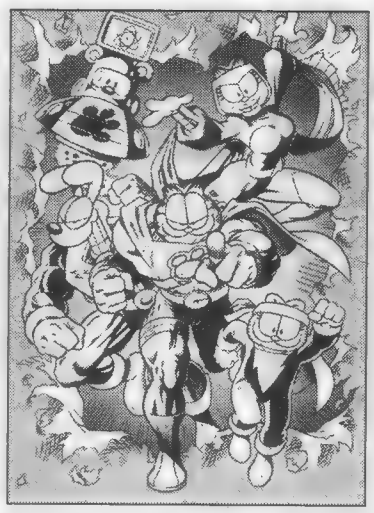
By encouraging artistic enterprise outside Paws, Davis said he hopes to keep his artists fresh and motivated. And the things the artists learn outside can often be applied to cat projects. And there's another benefit: There is almost no staff turnover. Barker, for instance, has been assisting for about 15 years.

Some of Barker's freelance work has included comic books. For Dark Horse, he pencilled issues of *The Mark* #5 and #6 and *Kings of the Night* #1, to name a few. For Marvel, he pencilled the cover and interior for *The Incredible Hulk* #389 and various covers, and, for Image, he pencilled a four-page story for *The Adventures of Aaron* #100. For DC's *Showcase '93,* he pencilled "The Kobra Kronicles" in #6, #7, and #8.

Barker's interest in super-heroes has found its way into the Garfield universe, too. Scholastic is publishing a series of paperbacks featuring The Pet Force, in which Garfield and his friends morph from their cuddly furry bodies into buff superheroes. Barker (and Larry Fentz, another Paws staffer) illustrate the books. The first two, *The Outrageous Origins* and *Pie-Rat's Revenge*, are already published.

International influences. I asked Davis whether the international audience for *Garfield* influences the generation of gags. He says it doesn't — not in the writing stage. Working with Koth, they simply shoot for humor. But afterward, Davis looks over the batch to make sure that the gags can be understood by people in different cultures.

"We're in 111 countries," he said, "and to think that the humor goes across the board is very gratifying. The challenge, obviously, is to do the kind of strip, the kind of gags, that make all people laugh, even if they're from different cultures. And for that reason, we work hard to keep the humor basic, keep the humor broad — to make everybody laugh. I personally like all kinds of humor and I feel that the kind of humor I use in *Garfield* is particularly effective, because it gives you a good kind of laugh.



Garfield has expanded into science-fiction with the ***Garfield's Pet Force*** *series of books by Michael Teitelbaum. Gary Barker is the illustrator, with inks by Larry Fentz and tints by Jeff Wesley.*

"By that, I mean you feel better after you've laughed than before. This humor is not shock humor. It's the good-natured kind of humor that you identify with rather than stand back and laugh at. And that served me well over the years — served Garfield well."

I said, "You deliberately avoid social satire and political commentary. And that's for the reasons that you've just indicated, I assume."

He responded, "In part. Also I'm not that well-versed in politics or subjects of that nature. I feel that should be reserved for the rest of the newspaper — unless you do it very, very well. As Trudeau does in *Doonesbury*. I just don't have anything to say on politics," he laughed.

I laughed, too: "Like that little old lady in Dubuque who said she didn't vote because she didn't want to give them any encouragement?"

"Yes," Davis said with another laugh. "That's true. All I have to say in *Garfield* is that life isn't so bad, and we should learn to laugh at ourselves. And if I keep driving that point home again and again, maybe after 20 years or 30 years or 40 years, it's going to catch on. So I stick with what I do best, and that's the kind of humor that points out people's foibles in a humorous way."

The model for Garfield that Barker works from has changed dramatically over the years. At first, the cat's body was much larger in relation to his head; now his head and his body are the same size. Most of the changes were, as Davis put it, "Darwinian evolution of the character. The only conscious thing I ever did was to put him up on his hind legs and allow him to walk on two feet. Walking on all fours took too much space. And when we got him up, he stood there and was able to stare Jon in the face, and that made for a better relationship. And he just moved better. And then it was perfect for the strip. I had been sensitive to keeping Garfield very cat-like, walking on all fours. But putting him on his hind feet was the only thing that was conscious. The rest of it — bigger eyes for more expression; smaller stomach — just evolved. His stomach got in the way of his movement. Every time you get a new gag — when he kicked Odie, when he'd reach for something — his stomach was getting in the way."

Bugs to cats. Davis had picked a cat as his protagonist because he wanted a non-human character. Non-humans don't usually offend readers or provoke controversy. But his first creation, *Gnorm Gnat,* about a bunch of insects, failed to spark enthusiasm among syndicate officials.

I couldn't resist: "They probably told you that it would be fine if you could work the bugs out of it."

Davis laughed, even though he'd surely heard that gag a few hundred times. When the syndicate editors explained that people don't like bugs, Davis turned to animals. Domestic animals were the most familiar to most readers, he reasoned, and people like their pets. There seemed to be a lot of dogs in the funnies. And no cats. Or so he thought.

"Even though George Gately had started his *Heathcliff* in 1973," Davis said, "I had not seen the panel, so I thought, I have the first cat idea! I was sure cat lovers would want a cat strip. And many people imagine human-types of feelings for cats because they're not very demonstrative creatures, and that would allow me to put anything into the cat that I pleased. In fact, to this day, the more human-like I make him, the more cat-like people say he is. He lives in a cat world; he has a cat's body, cat's limitations. But beyond that, he can have all the human emotions."

At one point, very early in the development of the feature, Davis had called the strip *Jon,* after Garfield's owner, who was a cartoonist. When I asked him why, he said it was because he knew he could write gags about a cartoonist and he wasn't sure he could sustain a strip with the cat alone. But Garfield quickly took over. "It was obvious almost right away that the strip belonged to Garfield completely," Davis said.

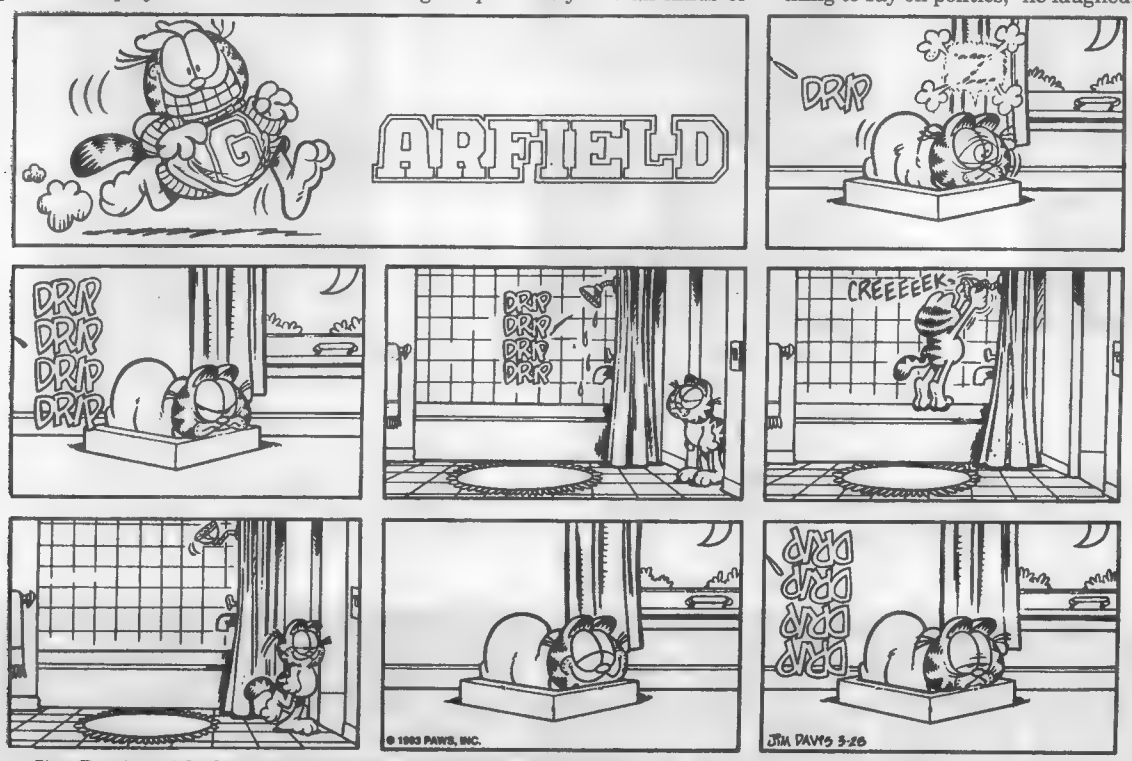
And *Garfield* belongs, these days, to Paws. In May 1994, Davis bought out his syndicate, securing complete ownership of his creation. Kim Campbell, director of public relations for Paws, told me that many of Davis' colleagues were upset about the precedent Davis was setting. But Davis just pointed to the contract: By contract, the syndicate owned the strip, so, if he wanted to own it, he had to buy it from the owner. So he did.

Print to pixels. Looking to the future, Davis said he believes that comic strips, like the newspapers they appear in, will doubtless evolve into something for the electronic environment. But he hopes comic strips will not simply change into animated cartoons.

He added, "I'm certainly not going to press to change the look of the comic strip, because the comic strip in and of itself is a very special case: It represents a unique experience as it is, and it needs to be preserved even beyond the newspapers. We could almost animate our stuff today. But as soon as you add sound and movement, you've changed it. It's not a comic strip any more. You don't need the printed words any more. Now you're not reading. You don't have to. And that'll be a loss. Kids learn to read with comic strips."

Although he has a large enough creative staff to generate more comic-strip features, Davis sticks to *Garfield*. For a few years, he also produced a strip about farm animals called *U.S. Acres*, but he retired it. He said he was as engaged with *U.S. Acres* as he was with *Garfield* and he couldn't do both and maintain quality. "Garfield is a full-time-and-a-half job, and we have a saying here: 'If we take care of the cat, the cat will take care of us.' And I hope to have Garfield take care of us for a long, long time to come."

For more on Davis' views on the art of cartooning a comic strip, see the June 1998 issue of ***Cartoonist PROfiles****, which carries an extended interview with Garfield's boss conducted by R.C. Harvey. It's $10 from* ***Cartoonist PROfiles****, P.O. Box 325, Fairfield, CT 06430.*



Jim Davis said about the visual aspects of the strip, "I see the gag at the same time as I imagine it."

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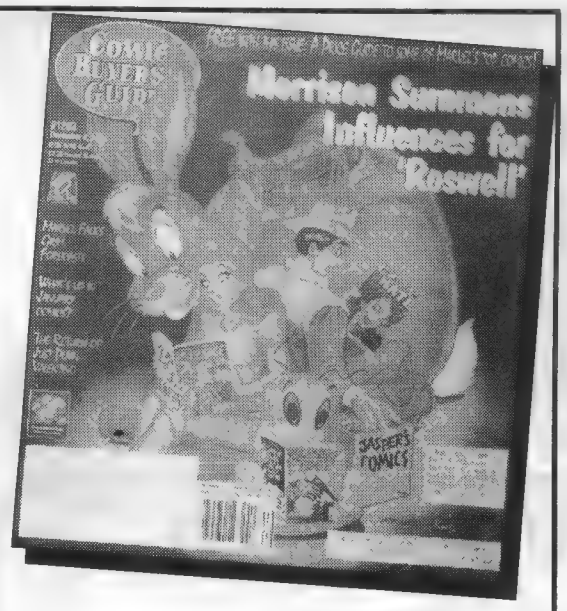

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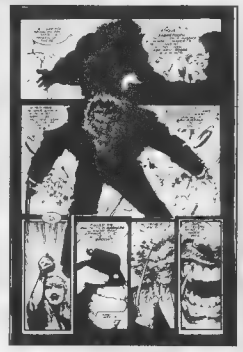
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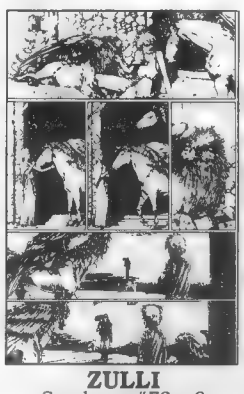
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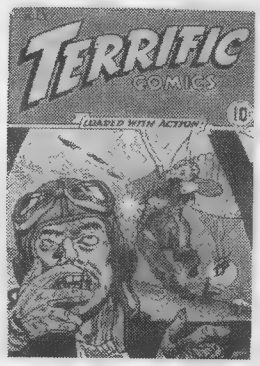

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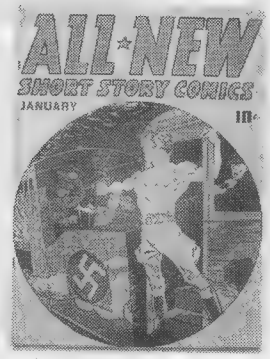

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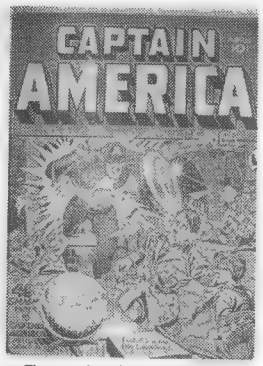

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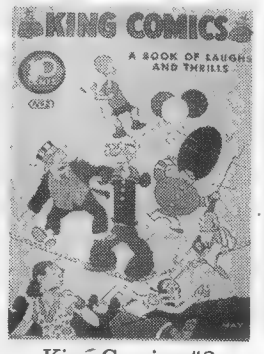

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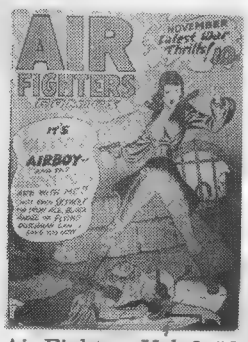

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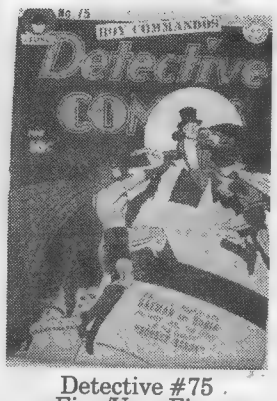

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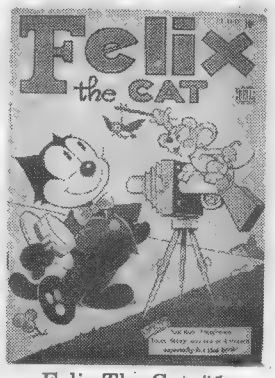

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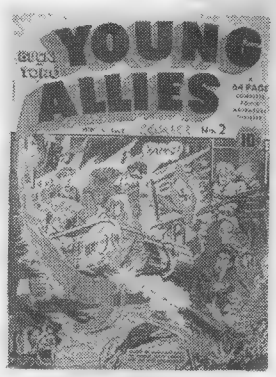

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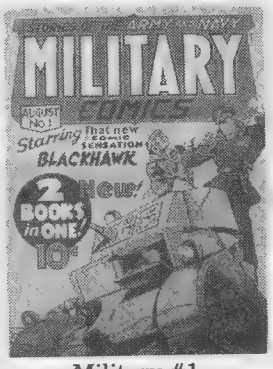

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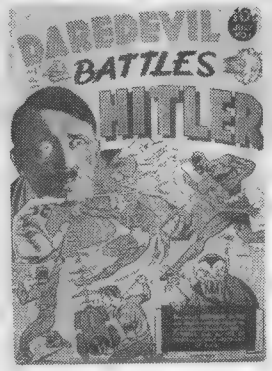

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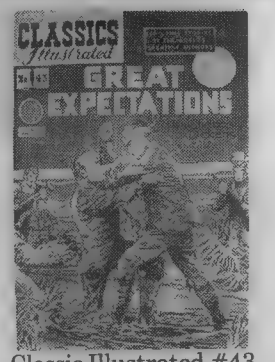

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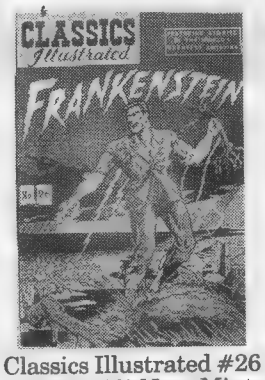

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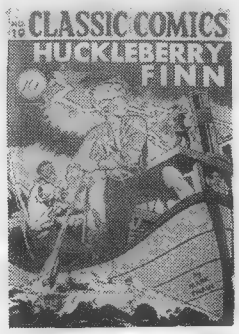

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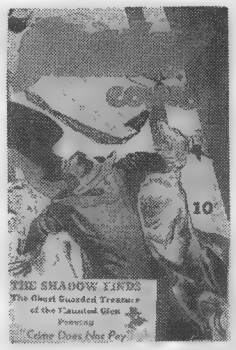

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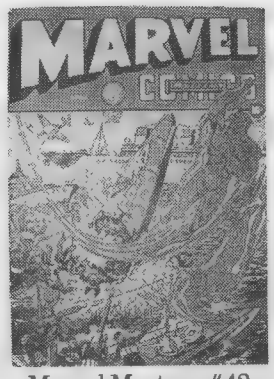

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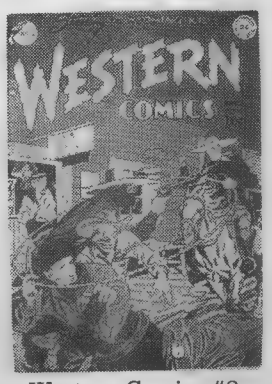

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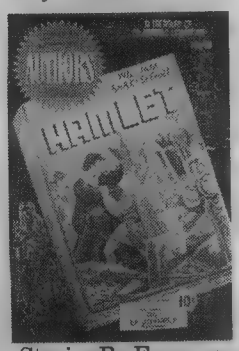

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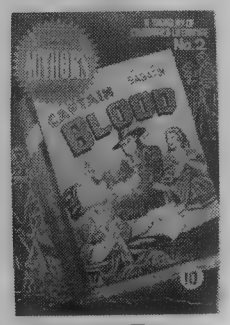

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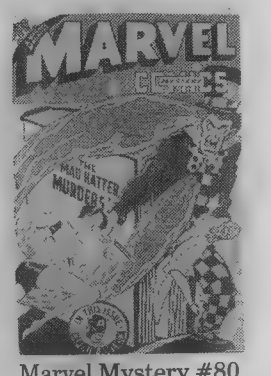

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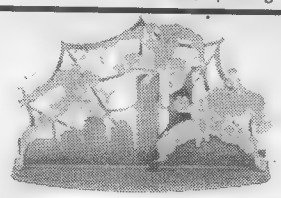

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"Back when I was in high school, it seemed like I was there for twenty years!"

— Schoolteacher Les Moore in Tom Batiuk's ***Funky Winkerbean*** *strip for May 25, 1998.*

Long-time readers of *Funky Winkerbean* got an extra laugh out of the above quote. Until Batiuk shifted his cast five years into the future and adulthood, Moore had been a high school student for, you guessed it, 20 years.

The *Funky* strip for May 31 showed the graduation ceremonies for the students who were introduced at that time. In the earlier strip, Les and another teacher remarked that it seemed like yesterday that the graduates were freshman and that time seems "to telescope as you get older."

I can relate to that. My daughter, Kelly, enters first grade in the fall; my son, Eddie, fourth grade. I also find myself drawn more to those newspaper strips where the passage of time is a presence, strips like *Funky Winkerbean* and *For Better or for Worse* and *Arlo and Janis,* than those where time is frozen. Even in these strips, time flows slowly, but flow it does.

■

A while back, I asked my readers for their thoughts on what comic books might be read by comic-strip characters. E.J. Barnes attacked the question with gusto. She wrote:

I had a suspicion your speculations on what comic-strip characters read would lead to a chance for readers to offer their own thoughts. Here are mine:

Jon in *Garfield* reads and re-reads *Bru-Hed's Guide to Gettin' Girls Now!* in the mistaken belief it will tell him what to do, rather than what not to do. If Garfield were a cat, rather than a person in a cat costume, he would sit on the pages while Jon is trying to read.

Verne the Turtle in *Over the Hedge* reads the copies of *FemForce* he finds in the recycling bin.

Sylvia, of course, reads *Naughty Bits*.

Dick Tracy reads — what else? — *Detective Comics*. He's also very interested in *Gangland*.

Brother Juniper hides *Preacher* under his cot at the monastery.

Abby Spencer in *Judge Parker* reads *Action Girl*. The judge, of course, reads *Daredevil* for the same reason Bob Ingersoll would, to catch the writer out making mistakes about what a lawyer would really do.

In weeks other than those in which Supercaptaincoolman titles ship, Curtis loves to read *Black Lightning*, which makes his father wax nostalgic.

Mike Doonesbury doesn't have time to read the ultra-violent manga that his wife brings home. Zonker, on the other hand, has a complete collection of *The Fabulous Furry Freak Brothers*.

Broom Hilda drinks Mad Dog 20/20 while reading *Poison Elves*.

Brenda Starr thinks Spider Jerusalem in *Transmetropolitan* is the coolest journalist in comics. Hey, if she can dig a guy with one eye, what's so disgusting about a guy with funny glasses, no hair, and some wicked tribal tattoos?

Sally Forth reads *Akiko* to Hilary, who deconstructs the subtext.

Tommie in *Apt. 3-G* reads *Strangers in Paradise* when she gets the time. She doesn't leave it out on the coffee table.

The prisoner in *Wizard of Id* reads *Kabuki*, looking for tips on how to break out. Sir Rodney likes those *Prince Valiant* reprints from Fantagraphics, while the Princess waits with bated breath for every issue of *Castle Waiting*.

Crock reads Joe Sacco's *Palestine*.

Adam owns every book on how to break into writing comics written in the past 20 years. But has he read any of them?

Zippy buys DC and Marvel super-hero comics but reads only the ads. He thinks that Crash Bandicoot is a crossover character.

Spiro in *Thatch* reads *Major Bummer*. Thatch's roommate Biff thinks it's a super-hero comic book. But he reads *Richie Rich*.

Beetle Bailey's life was changed forever when sister Lois wrote to him recommending *The Desert Peach*.

Lucy in *Peanuts* reads *Bone* and roots for the stupid rat creatures.

Robotman's evil twin has Mylar-bagged three copies of every issue of *Star Trek* and *Star Wars* — every last mini-series.

Pogo loved Alan Moore's sensitive writing some years ago on *Swamp Thing*.

The only comic book in Cathy's library is the late Dori Seda's *Lonely Nights*.

The only DC character Dilbert cares about is Oracle, but he doesn't think she's realistic because she always seems to have all the computer resources she needs.

Andy Capp is very excited about *Totally Horses*.

Hagar the Horrible, of course, reads *Groo*.

Thanks for playing our game, E.J. I'll have more reader responses in upcoming columns.

•

E.J.'s letter reminds me that two of my favorite current comic strips revolve around households of formidable women. One of them is *Judge Parker*, with strong-willed heiress Abby Spencer and her equally strong-willed adopted daughters. When the girls came into the strip several years ago, they gave it new life. Recent stories have featured a professional hitwoman and romantic revenge by way of hostile corporate takeover. It's great stuff.

The other strip is *9 Chickweed Lane*, the address shared by a schoolteacher, her daughter, and her mother. It's got gorgeous artwork and some very sharp writing.

What's that? Your local newspaper doesn't run these and other great strips you've heard about?

Silly reader. Why do you think God created the Internet?

If you run a search on the name of just about any comic strip, you'll find an online source for it. One of my favorites is a site called C-Toons. It offers more than 40 strips — daily *and* Sunday — in full color. Its lineup includes *9 Chickweed Lane* and *Archie,* just to name two. You can find it at: http://www.ctoons.com

•

Every week, the *Akron Beacon-Journal* produces "The Periscope Page," a feature designed by the paper's Newspaper in Education office to be used by teachers and students. Recently, I was drawn to a stylized "Flying Superwoman" drawing and the language-arts activity it illustrated.

Under the heading "Cartoon Hero," this is what appeared:

"Skim through today's comic strips to find a hero among the characters. Which character has the qualities you admire and could look up to? Clip the picture of your comic hero, paste it on a piece of paper, and list all of the qualities that you think this character has. Put a check mark next to each quality that you think you also have."

This sounded like an interesting activity to share with ***CBG***'s readers, as well, so consider this your homework assignment for the week. It's not a mandatory assignment, but the best responses will receive brownie points.

I'll be back next week.

You can send your comments on and review items for this column to: Tony's Tips, P.O. Box 1502, Medina, OH 44258.

'Time slips' for Marvel. Imagine a Marvel universe imagined by creators other than Stan Lee, Jack Kirby, and Steve Ditko. That's the idea behind *Timeslip*, a new series which looks at the early days of the Marvel universe through different eyes.

Originally seen in the pages of *Marvel Vision*, the new, quarterly series kicks off in July with a 48-page special by Jim Krueger and Matt Smith that shows what the Marvel universe would be like if The Avengers had been formed by the machinations of Thor, rather than Loki. *Timeslip* Assistant Editor Julio Soto stressed that the *Timeslip* series will be more than a dressed-up *What If?*

"*What If?* would take a story element, and look at a new twist from there," Soto said. "We'll take on a broad concept and alter it in a big way. For example, instead of doing a story about what if Reed Richards married Alicia Masters, we'd try a story where a gamma-irradiated Bruce Banner took Richards' place on the original spaceflight."

Soto reported that Marvel will release a collected edition of the nearly 30 *Timeslip* entries from the pages of *Marvel Vision* this summer, as well, packaged with a new cover and introduction.

— Matt Brady and Michael Doran

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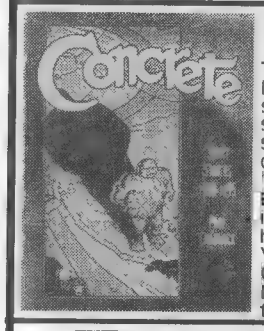

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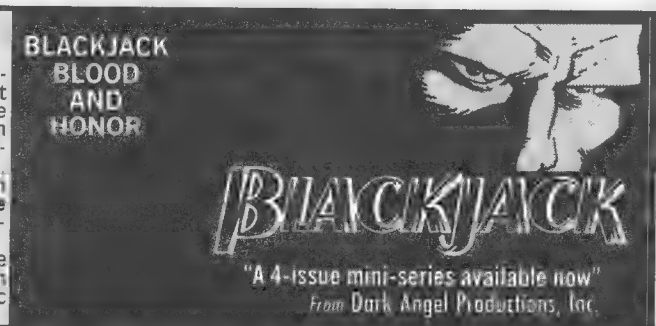

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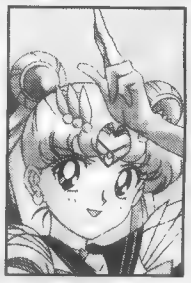

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June 13

Jon "Bean" Hastings (creator of *Smith Brown Jones: Alien Accountant*) and **C. Scott Morse** (creator of *Soulwind* and *Visitations*) at Meltdown Comics, 7529 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, **California** from 3 to 5 p.m.

June 14

Dave Ross (artist of *Gen13: Bootleg*), **Craig A. Taillefer** (writer and artist of *Wahoo Morris*), **Tim** and **David Dang** (creative team of *Brilliant Boy*), and **Steven Gilbert** (writer and artist of *Colville*) at Shining Knight Comics, 1328 Danforth Ave., Toronto, **Ontario**, Canada, from 1 to 5 p.m.

June 17

Batton Lash (creator of *Wolff & Byrd*) at Jim Hanley's Universe, 4 W. 33rd St., New York, **New York** 10001, from 4 to 7 p.m.

Jon "Bean" Hastings (creator of *Smith Brown Jones: Alien Accountant*) and **F. Andrew Taylor** (creator of *Beer and Roaming in Las Vegas*) at Alternate Reality, 4800 S. Maryland Pky., Las Vegas, **Nevada** from 3 to 6 p.m.

June 20

Walter Koenig ("Chekov" on *Star Trek* and "Alfred Bester" on *Babylon 5*) at Metro Comics, 6 W. Anapamu, Santa Barbara, **California** 93101, from 1 to 3 p.m.

Tony DiGerolamo (creator and writer of *Jersey Devil*) and **Dom LaGrutta Jr.** (artist of *Jersey Devil*) at Frankenstein's Comics, 845 Manua Pike, Rt. 45, Woodbury Heights, **New Jersey** from noon to 6 p.m.

June 21

Jeff Moy, **Phil Moy**, and **W.C. Carani** (creative team for *Legionnaires*) at Rubber Chicken Comics, 195 E. Main St., Milford, **Massachusetts** from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

June 26

Tony DiGerolamo (creator and writer of *Jersey Devil*) and **Dom LaGrutta Jr.** (artist of *Jersey Devil*) at Steve's Comic Relief, 165 Mercer Mall, Lawrenceville, **New Jersey** from 5 to 8 p.m.

June 27

Mark Snow (composer of music for *The X-Files*) at Metro Comics & Games, 6 W. Anapamu, Santa Barbara, **California** 93101, from 1 to 3 p.m.

Dom LaGrutta Jr. (artist of *Jersey Devil*) at Steve's Comic Relief, Toms River, **New Jersey** from noon to 3 p.m.

Tony DiGerolamo (creator and writer of *Jersey Devil*) at Steve's Comic Relief, 4135 Woerner Ave., Levittown, **Pennsylvania** from 5 to 8 p.m.

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81(3) VG/F 13.00
80, 82, 85, 86, 87, 89, 91, 92(2), 93-99 avg VG/F 12.00
87 VG + ... 12.00
91 Gd- 4.00
87, 91 F + ... 22.00
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95 sc o/w VF/NM 25.00
97 98 VF 40.00
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98 VF/NM file 50.00
100 VG/F 30.00
101 3"cc o/w VF 25.00
103 106 VF/NM file 45.00
103 VF 40.00
104 VG- 12.00
104 1/8" trfc o/w VF + ... 40.00
105 fa 3.00
106 F- 12.00
108 VG 9.00
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118 GD + ... 40.00
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121 F + ... 40.00
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130 VF/NM file 75.00
130 F- 20.00
131 nbc o/w Gd 2.00
127, 132 VG 14.00
133 VG + ... 18.00
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2 VG- 4.00
3 VG 2.50
3 1/2" potc o/w VG + ... 2.50
4 VG 3.50
5 GD 1.00
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6 VG 2.50
7 (c2) VG 3.50
8 (c2) VG 3.50
8 VG/F 4.00
8 F 6.00
9 ph. o/w VG 2.00
9 VG/F 5.00
9, 10 F/VF 7.00
10 VG 3.50
10 VG/F 5.00
11 F/VF 6.00
11 VG 3.00
11 1/8" trfc o/w VF 7.00
11 prmrk o/w F 5.00
12 F 6.50
15 VG 2.00
16, 18 VG/F 4.00
16 F 5.00
17 VG 2.50
18 VF/NM 7.00
18 FA 1.00
18 F 5.00
19 VG 2.00
19 VG/F 4.00
20 VF/NM 8.00
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(See Dell Giant) #1 VG 36.00
LONE RANGERS HI YO SILVER
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11 12, 16 VG 6.00
13 F- 8.00
14, 15 VF 25.00
17 GD + ... 4.00
19 fa 2.00
19, 22 24 VG/F 7.00
19 VF 25.00
17, 19 22, 26 F/F + ... 15.00
20 21, 24 VG 6.00
24, 31 GD 2.50
24 F/A + ... 8.00
25, 28, 29 F- 8.00
26 VF- 20.00
27 VG + ... 6.00
27 F- 8.00
29 FA 9.50
30 1/8" co o/w VF 9.00
31 VF- 25.00
33 GD + ... 3.00
35 F + ... 20.00
36 VG/F 7.00
36 F- 8.00
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8-10 VG 10.00
10 sml natc o/w F- 13.00
12 fa 3.00
12, 13 VG/F 10.50
14, 20 gd. 4.00
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17, 18 avg F 13.00
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22, 30 F/F + ... 14.00
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24, 30 avg F/F + ... 15.00
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Four Color 962 VG + ... 28.00
980 VG 20.00
1005 VG 12.00
7 VF- 60.00
9(2), 10 F- 23.00
10 VG 17.00
11 F/VF 50.00
12 sml posp o/w F + ... 22.00
13 VG/F 22.00
13 VF 65.00
14 F 25.00
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2 VF/NM 14.00
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MONTE HALE WESTERN
42 VG + ... 30.00
47 VG/VG + ... 30.00
73 F/VF 40.00
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17 1/8" trsp o/w VF 30.00
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21 VG 9.00
QUICK TRIGGER WESTERN (ATLAS)
14 16 VG 20.00
17 VF 45.00
RAWHIDE KID (ATLAS 1957)
12 1/16"cosp o/w F/VF 38.00
14 ss, mc F 36.00
45 ad, VF/NM origin 50.00
45 1 sml mc o/w VF/NM 50.00
45 VG 20.00
46 F Toth 25.00
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48 fa 1.70
48 VG/F 8.00
48 F 10.00
48 VF 20.00
48 VF/NM 24.00
49 VG 7.00
49 VG/F 9.00
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52 VF/NM 24.00
53 F 10.00
56 sml natc o/w VF/NM 20.00
56 1/4"trfc o/w VF/NM. 13.00
RED MASK (ME 1954)
42 VG(#1) 38.00
51 lt sc o/w VG/F 40.00
53 VF- 60.00
RED DRAGON COMICS
Four Color 916 Vg/F 8.00
15 VG + ... 50.00
16 1/8" trsp o/w VF 200.00
31 sml cc o/w VF- 80.00
32 VG 32.00
35 sml natc, cc, o/w VF- 40.00
42 VG 17.00
43 F 35.00
45 VG/F 24.00
46 F- 29.00
51 VG/F 24.00
57 VG + ... 17.00
68 VG 14.00
69 F- 24.00
80 VG 14.00
74 VF 50.00
86, 92-94, 98 VG/F 15.00
97 F- 20.00
97 GD 5.00
98, 107 F 14.00
103 VG 9.00
111 VG/F 9.00
114 VG- 6.50
119 VG/F 9.00
109 GD 4.00
120 cvr scrape o/w F- 5.00
121 fa 3.00
127 VG 7.00
127 F- 9.50
129, 130, 132, 139 VG/F 8.50
134 VF + ... 25.00
135 GD 3.00
135, 136 VG 7.00
137 sml cc o/w VF/NM 25.00
137, 141 GD + ... 4.50
138 F 13.00
141 VG- 4.00
142 sml natc o/w VF/NM 21.00
142 F 9.00
139, 145 VG 5.00
145 F 8.00
145 F/VF 15.00
148, 150 VG 5.00
149 VF/NM 22.00
151 VG/F 7.00
REX ALLEN COMICS
8 fa 14.00
10 VG 14.00
10 F/VF 40.00
13, 18 GD 5.00
13, 18 VG/F 13.00
15 F- 15.00
22 VG/F 12.00
23 27 VF- 35.00
25 l

the comics PANEL

This week's panel! ...and the first comic books they ever bought!

Maggie Thompson — *CBG* Editor — *Raggedy Ann + Andy#8*
John Jackson Miller — *CBG* Managing Editor — *Uncle Scrooge #113*
Brent Frankenhoff — *CBG* Projects Editor — *Amazing Spider-Man #102*
Michael Dean — *CBG* Associate Editor — *Classics Illustrated #138*
Joyce Greenholdt — *CBG* Associate Editor — *Amazing Spider-Man #79*

STAFF EDITION

A round-robin review of some of today's noteworthy comic books!

Darklight #1 and 2

Sirius, b/w, $2.95 each

Written and drawn by Teri Sue Wood, whose *Wandering Star* epic recently concluded, *Darklight* is a fantasy series ***scheduled for fall release***. Focal characters are twin sisters who want to rent a house. But the landlord is mysterious.

Brent: The magical aspects of the series are interesting. Mixing Egyptian mythology with other forms of "magic," including shapeshifting (the term that the series' resident werewolf prefers), makes for a comic book that contains surprise after surprise on each subsequent page. For those who came in late on *Wandering Star*, here's a chance to get in on the ground floor with a new Wood series. **A.**

Joyce: A great find for fans of urban fantasy novels like Emma Bull's *War for the Oaks,* as well as for fans of Wood's previous work. It's told with the same blend of humor and drama, along with Wood's excellent renderings of facial expressions — far superior to many comics, in which the heroes are limited to gritted teeth or snarling faces. *Wandering Star* readers will also recognize that Teri Wood has put a lot of herself into this work, with one of the main characters being a comics self-publisher. And both protagonists are actually shaped like normal human beings. Also, the story so far is intriguing and the characters engaging. **A+.**

Maggie: Fans of *Wandering Star* will find many of the elements that attracted them to the science-fiction series again — but in a different story in a different world and in a fantasy. There's still a suffering woman looking back on a life that has brought her anguish. There's still a variety of fantastic, attractive characters. There's still clear story-telling promising actual structure. Wood's fans will again find themselves eager to read the next installment. **A.**

Michael: This piece of "horror-lite" could've used a little more darkness. *Darklight* is a character-driven tale of "real people" encountering the supernatural — a werewolf, a ghost, and the suicidal survivor of a race of Egyptian immortals — but Vertigo readers, for example, are apt to find it a bit too cute and light-hearted. Still, it's an improvement over the testosterone-driven bloodfests that dominate many horror-genre comics, and the scene where the spooky Clarese gets the two protagonists to open up years of emotional baggage with a wave of her finger is very cool. **B-.**

John: With so many immortals in the comics world, it's no wonder Social Security is in trouble. *Darklight* should have appeal for *Sandman* fans — especially the ones who preferred cats to serial killers as supporting characters. **B+.**

Panel's grade: A-

A Jew in Communist Prague Vol. 3

NBM, color, 56 pages, $11.95

The third of four volumes depicts a Jewish boy's coming of age in 1950s Czechoslovakia as told by Italian graphic novelist Vittorio Giardino. The police hauled Jonas' father away in the middle of the night years ago and, as this chapter begins, he and his mother are barely hanging on in the face of social and economic ostracization. An underground literary group and a secret romance motivate him to fight back. ***Ships in July.***

Maggie: Many comics readers in this country have little idea how people in other lands have coped with life in totalitarian regimes. The horrors and justifiable paranoia experienced by citizens in a police state are in sharp contrast to Giardino's attractive, precise renderings of the ugly daily life of even the prettiest people. Indeed, the art is "pretty," confidently drawn and subtly colored views of the life of young people in a society in which the next car on the street may carry a policeman whose job is to cross-examine you about the reports you've been turning in on your neighbors. It's strong stuff — but the focus at times seems almost more to be on the simple day-to-day torments common to teens the world over. **A.**

Brent: Those who enjoyed *Fax from Sarajevo* should definitely pick up this series. Set in the 1950s, it shows how a new government system attempts to displace the former government with the implementation, not only of new laws, but also of "retroactive" laws. It also demonstrates the common man working both within and outside the law, from meeting to discuss forbidden subjects to smuggling forbidden books to having a forbidden romantic liaison with the daughter of a Russian diplomat. The art portrays the emotions of the protagonist excellently and showcases the tension that was felt by many Prague citizens at the time. Grade: **A+.**

Joyce: Reading the earlier books in this series, you get a feeling of creeping claustrophobia as you see Jonas' choices limited by the new communist regime — forbidden to attend college, forced to move with his mother to a small, cramped apartment, his childhood friends either turning away from him on their own or steered away by their parents. Giardino's picture of everyday life in 1950s Prague conveys the suffocating nature of the state while showing how ordinary people, at all levels of life, manage to bend but not break under the new regime. **A.**

Michael: Giardino's style is both clean and detailed and tells its story with cinematic clarity. Readers will find themselves walking the streets of 1950s Prague, experiencing a mixture of nostalgia and anger. Kafka is alluded to more than once, as the Communist bureaucracy does its best to stomp Jonas' family beneath its boot-heel, but, where Kafka was unremittingly dark-humored, Giardino is stubbornly sentimental.

One caution: NBM calls this a graphic novel, but it's actually only part of one. An introduction brings the reader up to date, but this volume does not stand on its own, and readers who want to get the whole story will have to pay about $50 for all four chapters. **A.**

John: Romance in comics — what a novel concept! And if the story often seems predictable, it's more the consequence of a totalitarian environment where the pleasant surprises are small and the unhappy ones are more or less expected. We nonetheless read with hope and wonder where Jonas' hope comes from.

A postscript: After finishing this, I turned to a current AP story about a 15-year-old Jewish boy in America who admitted helping his friends burn a cross on his own parents' lawn because they wouldn't let him stay late at a beach party. It's a stark contrast with a place and time where parental defiance meant escaping to poetry. Sadly, the readers who might learn the most from Jonas' story probably won't get near it in this format and price. **A.**

Panel's grade: A

Smith Brown Jones: Alien Accountant #1-2

Slave Labor, b/w, $2.95 each

In Jon "Bean" Hastings' series, the alien Smith Brown Jones works at a tabloid newspaper, where no one seems to notice his more alien qualities. He's actually a galactic government bureaucrat sent to safeguard Earth.

Michael: There's nothing "Done in One" about this episode in a decidedly eccentric ongoing storyline that spans continents, light years, and cyberspace. New readers who pick up this #1 issue from SLG are likely to be confused, and a dippy recap supposedly provided by the winner of a "You Do the Introduction Contest" doesn't help much. Hastings' cartooning skills and impeccable comic timing, however, will have you chuckling even when you don't know what you're chuckling at. By all means, check this out, but first read the *Smith Brown Jones* trade paperback *Calm, Cool & Collected*, also available from Slave Labor. **A-**.

Brent: It's great that Slave Labor has picked up this hilarious series. Previously published by Hastings' own Kiwi Press, the series should now get the wider distribution it deserves. A trade paperback of the first series is already available. And in this story arc, as always, Hastings plunges the reader deep into the story with the first issue. Jones files his report on the events of the first series, his computer pal Pops catches a computer virus, and a Kansas couple meets Smith Brown Jones' brother, Jeff Chester Chuck. Funny stuff. **A.**

Joyce: After thwarting an alien invasion in the previous series, our hero is off to England to investigate an outbreak of carnivorous exploding sheep. The first issue is a bit confusing, because it's actually following three storylines: events in England, the effects of the first story on the galactic government, and what Smith and his buddies are up to. But by the second issue, things have come together nicely. And both issues have a lot of good laughs. Rare indeed is the person who can read *Smith Brown Jones* without laughing out loud. **A+.**

John: It's frenzied and frenetic and it's easy to get lost along the way, but you'll be in good company, since the protagonists don't seem to be able to get a handle on what's going on, either. Funniest in the slow moments, of which there aren't nearly enough, but stocked with enough good lines to please those not obsessed with figuring out what it all means. **B.**

Maggie: This is actually *Smith Brown Jones: Alien Accountant* Vol. 2, #1-2. Dialogue includes such lines as "If this is a plot, you trolls will be leaving the forest in a different, squishier way." In these battles of wits some of the characters have armaments that are, well, different. "I'm Ma Kant and this is Pa Kant, like Immanuel Kant, but without all the philosophy." If you think these are funny, (a) you're right and (b) you should be getting this series (and the paperback that precedes it). **A.**

Panel's grade: A-

The 3 Geeks #5-6

3 Finger Prints, b/w, 24 pages, each $2.50

Creator Rich Koslawski adds to his trio with the introduction of the other members of the comics collecting group. As the chairman's role is passed from Keith, the most "normal" of the geeks, to Allen, the "geekiest" of the geeks, a revolution ensues. Readers may see themselves — or their worst nightmares — in these two issues.

Brent: Beginning with *How to Pick up Chicks Even if You're a Comic Book Geek*, Koslawski has taken a trio of "typical" fanboys and increased their geekiness 1000%. When the general public thinks of fandom at all, these are the guys who are assumed to be us. Of course, we know that's not true, don't we? Some readers may look at this series as autobiographical. On the other hand, some readers may see this as a message to (to borrow from William Shatner's *Saturday Night Live* sketch) "Get a life!"

Koslawski's parody titles for comics creators and comic books are great — and who wouldn't want to have Allen's collection? **A.**

Maggie: Feeling uncomfortable? These can help. Whether you've ever watched a group of your fellow comics buffs drift away into inattention as you try to explain something or felt left out when those who are "in" are having a good time together — Well, you'll still feel uncomfortable. But you'll know you're not alone. There's a nice light touch to these comics *about* comics fans. **B+.**

Joyce: Although the characters and situations are all exaggerated for effect, this series brings back memories — of the joys of discovering that you're not the only teen in existence who reads comics for fun, of being able to talk about what you've read with people who care, and, of course, those social dynamics you find in any group of teens, geeks or not. **B.**

Michael: In this story, Koslawski has taken the premise of Jolly Blackburn's *Knights of the Dinner Table* — a group of hobbyists meet regularly and reflect the eccentricities of the gaming community — and more or less successfully applied it to the comics world. Since each series is pretty much confined to its meeting room and its core characters, the concept is only as good as its cast. Unfortunately, the characters featured in *The 3 Geeks* don't have the subtlety or variety of *Knights*. There's not a lot you can do with a character whose schtick is to mumble incoherently, and the star geek, an obsessive-compulsive who talks in Thor-speak, verily approaches mental illness. There is a rich vein of humor in this topic, and Koslawski gets a lot of mileage out of, for instance, geek letter-hacking. Not a good title to show non-comics readers. **C+.**

John: Needling the compulsions of comics fans hardly seems a niche that needed filling, but what the heck? *3 Geeks* has fun with it and so will readers, although these are relatively light doses for the money at 20 bits apiece. How about a group therapy episode next, Rich? **B-.**

Panel's grade: B

The Gothic Scrolls: Drayven #1-3

Davdez, color, $2.95 for #1, $2.50 for #2 and 3

Davdez drew its name from creator **Dav**id Hernan**dez** (get it?). Mixing Biblical, Egyptian, and supernatural themes, Drayven is a modern-day vampire telling his origin. The series is created, written, and illustrated by Hernandez. **Available now.**

Maggie: Hernandez has prepared an elaborate, centuries-long history for his character (whose early life included helping Joshua in working on the pyramids). The backstory has been elaborately worked out (with huge chunks offered as background in the backs of the issues). The problem lies in the development of that complex story into the comic-book story. The art often looks like thumbnails too hastily moved on to elaborate computer embellishment. The script too often displays signs of having been too hastily accepted for electronic lettering. (Such typos as "children as sacrfices and fed on thier flesh" are unfortunately not hard to find.)

The company is trying several ways to build a line of comics including *Lost Heroes* "starring" real people.(Its least-computerized — black and white, at that — is the entertaining *Dark Island*.) Of the line's titles, though, *Drayven* is the one needing the most polish. **C-.**

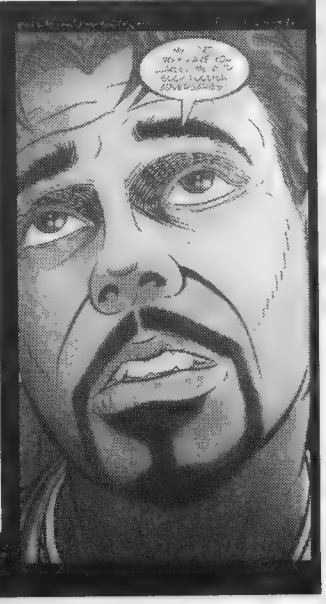
Brent: Hernandez' passion for his project is evident, and his mix of Biblical themes, Egyptian myths, and vampire (or as he spells it vampyre, pronounced "wompeer") lore makes for a powerful story. Now if he could just employ a spellchecker. It's also a shame that nearly every image of Drayven shows him either perplexed or ticked off. Drayven's narration is a good complement to the story, but occasionally the panels are placed poorly and don't draw the eye to the next one in sequence. With a bit more polish (and the series has already improved from the first to the third issue), this could appeal to both vampire and Egyptian fans. **B-.**

Joyce: While the series' concept is sound, the execution of virtually every facet of this work — writing, art, coloring — is flawed in too many ways to list here. The folks involved really need to brush up on their basic skills, start observing how the real world looks and how real people talk, and practice a lot more before expecting people to pay to see their work. Oh, and get a dictionary. **D.**

Michael: Anne Rice fans with a high threshold for Gothic melodrama should appreciate this epic tale. But if lines like "Many have tried to bring the tales of our existence to your social milieu, but to no avail," make you wish *Seinfeld* was on, better give it a miss. **C-.**

John: *Drayven* reads like it's been translated into a foreign language and then back into English — by different people. This gives us a world where "Here's where I come in" becomes "This is where I gain entry into the account." ("This is the language police. Put the thesaurus *down*!") Add static art and we have something akin to *Classics Illustrated* — with more skin.

Check the newspaper: What's the going rate for enthusiasm and good intentions? Enough for a **C-.**



Panel's grade: C-

From the '40s to the '90s: Dale Messick's Starr qualities

By R. Robert Pollak

Dale Messick
Photo by Chip Beck

*[**Editor's note:** Dale Messick received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the National Cartoonists Society's annual dinner this year. This reminiscence was written in 1997.]*

Dale Messick created *Brenda Starr* in 1940. It became popular and was seen as a model for many young women for many decades. "La Starr" sparked ideas and dreams of exciting careers for women emerging from traditional career routines of past generations. Subsequently, it caught the attention of some young men for different reasons: adventure, action, Brenda's beauty, and her red tresses. Syndicate surveys show that the majority of this feature's readers are female. Yet nearly everyone knows of the character and her "Mystery Man."

Trina Robbins wrote, "America was ready for a strong, action-oriented heroine." Robbins also credited Messick by saying she "opened the way for over a decade of action heroines in the comics." Obviously Messick was a strong model.

In contrast Maurice Horn in *The World Encyclopedia of Comics* wrote, "Messick's stories are chaotic, to say the least, and her drawing is less than adequate." However Horn's passage ended, "Dale Messick's prosperous career shines especially bright." Perhaps Brenda's "chaotic" escapades had some virtue for the author, after all.

Brenda and Dale. In a 1988 interview I conducted, Messick explained why she had put so much of herself into the strip. "Brenda was a career girl and I was a career woman myself. This allowed me to give it a personal touch that a man couldn't do."

Messick was a redhead, as was Brenda. Messick's success as a cartoonist and Brenda's achievements as a reporter on *The Flash* seem to complement each other.

Brenda Starr, Bandit? Messick said she had intended Brenda to be a bandit, but Mollie Slott from the Chicago Tribune – New York News Syndicate decided a reporter would have more appeal. During the first year of the strip, the red-headed bombshell's core was formed, and Messick's formula for storytelling began to unfold, a soap-opera genre with much more punch. In 1940 the first story was drawn in a naive style; the art would later grow, expand, change, and yet have Messick's distinct look for the next 40 years. Her technique showed a strength and exuberance that would last throughout her long career.

Messick made certain that Hollywood and high society were in place, too. Brenda Starr started out as a cross between a popular debutante of the day, Brenda Frazier, and movie star Rita Hayworth. In Tom Mason's introduction to *Red-Headed Bombshell* he wrote that in 1940, newspaper owners, editors, syndicate heads, and most of the people in the field were men. He concluded, "The frustrations that Brenda felt at her job must have directly paralleled those felt by Dale Messick at hers."

From supplement to strip. By 1945 the popularity of the strip had grown exponentially. *Brenda Starr* had graduated from a comics supplement to a regular comic-strip feature in the newspapers. Fans wanted to read it daily and got their wish. Finally, Messick's creation was in good company and shared Sunday and daily funny pages with *Dick Tracy, Little Orphan Annie, Gasoline Alley, etc.* and was growing in this syndication. A Starr was born.

BRENDA STARR
THESE HATS ARE VERY SMART..... THEY'D LOOK WELL ON MOST ANYONE...
SANK YOU, MEES STARR.
YOU HAVEN'T A GOOFY HAT IN THE WHOLE STORE.
NO WONDER...WOMEN AREN'T WEARING THEM SO MUCH ANYMORE...
WHEN I SPEND $39.97 FOR A TOP PIECE, IT'S GOT TO CAUSE SOME KIND OF A SENSATION—EVEN IF IT'S ONLY THE BARKING OF DOGS... SO LONG, ANNETTE..
BUT-BUT-MEES STARR..

Brenda needs to think. How better to relieve stress than to buy a hat? It's a tribute to Dale Messick's mother.

> **"Brenda was a career girl and I was a career woman myself. This allowed me to give it a personal touch that a man couldn't do."**
> *— Dale Messick*

This was a turning point in the strip. too. Messick introduced "The Mystery Man." The cliff-hanging adventures of Brenda and Basil St. John would keep fans reading for decades to come. It was one of Messick's assistants who provided the model for Basil St. John, Brenda's long-lost lover. Messick let them finally wed in 1976, but their romance continued in roller-coaster fashion. Despite the marriage and their daughter, Starr, Brenda and Basil have been continually pulled apart and then thrown back together. They represent the strength of true love, a theme that continues today in the strip.

A Starr hat. Messick's panache for story telling and her love of couture was evident in the way Brenda was presented to the public, always at the pinnacle of fashion. Messick's mother was a milliner and sometimes, when Brenda was in a jam, she would head to an elegant milliner's shop. This theme was repeated on a regular basis for many years and was a doorway into the the fashion trends of the day. This special attention to that sort of detail was, perhaps, another way the strip targeted female readers. Brenda was always well attired when she set out on one of her tempestuous global adventures.

I'LL TAKE YOUR LITTLE DAUGHTER SKIING – IT WILL BE MY PLEASURE. AND FOR HER BEAUTIFUL REDHEADED MOTHER...
1/8
...I HAVE A GREAT HEADACHE REMEDY.
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I'LL JUST BET.
Mick Messick & Ramona Fradon
Ramona Fradon

Ramona Fradon's work was Messick's artistic successor.

Assistant's assignments. Messick's most significant art assistant was John Olson. Sometimes, when she took a vacation, Messick would write a jungle or an island sequence. Olson would do most of the scenes, and, upon her return, Messick would do the main characters. Olson began work on *Brenda Starr* in the early 1950s. His artistic style was crisp and sharp, unlike Messick's heavier brush technique. One would not think their styles could mesh well, but they did — perfectly. However, readers looking for a Sunday page that was done mostly by Olson's own hand, you will see how different his work is from that of Messick. She once stated, "I don't consider myself a really good artist." Messick employed Olson for about 28 years to do backgrounds, action scenes, and lettering. She focused on the major characters. With Messick at the helm, the strip continued to capture more fans. Attracted by the art and caught by the imaginative cliff-hangers she spun, readers could not resist coming back for more.

If Starr and St. John were representations of purity and true love, then many more obstacles were needed to keep reader interest going. Besides the Mystery Man's dilemma of going insane without black orchid serum, other tensions needed to exist.

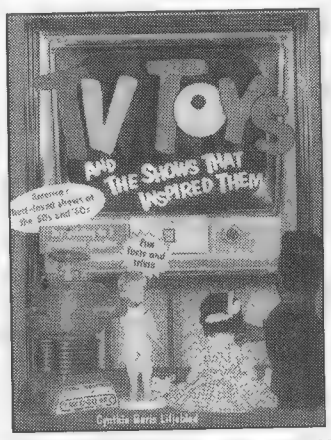
For this category, Messick created arrogant, selfish, and scheming females to cause mayhem and chaos and add spice to the main character's life. Many of the male characters were subordinated and would woo, charm, coax, buy, and even kidnap Brenda Starr for a variety of reasons, including obsession and insanity.

Female opponents, like Daphne Dimples, seemed truly evil and vicious at times, despite having outward beauty and fashionable professional attire. Many characters would be out to get Brenda Starr, but the rich, spoiled, beautiful, niece of the newspaper's chief, Daphne Dimples, was the premier antagonist. Daphne first appeared in 1940, early in the strip, and was jealous of the pure, good-girl type that Brenda was. She needed to soil Starr's reputation to get attention. Most of the time it all backfired on Daphne.

As testimony to the popularity of the strip, it is still running. Despite its lack of glamor, the soap-opera aspect is still evident, and it pulls in readers. It is one of the few continuity strips in syndication. The artistic reins were handed to Ramona Fradon in 1980. She applied her unique style to *Brenda Starr* with great success, and Messick once said that she really liked the way Fradon drew the male characters in the strip. Fradon followed Messick's layouts for at least her first full year on the feature. In 1995 June Brigman took over the art.

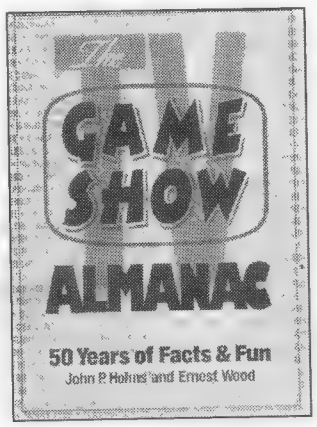
Many of the "Starr" qualities Messick vigorously injected into the strip have endured and have been adjusted to changing times. Loyal followers of the strip anxiously wait to see when the "Mystery Man" will return again.

LEARN THE VALUE OF ALL YOUR COLLECTIBLES



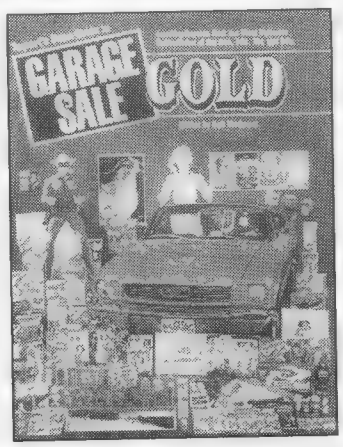
TV Toys and the Shows that Inspired Them
by Cynthia Boris Liljeblad
Confidently compare your own toys to this carefully researched price guide. Author Cynthia Boris Liljeblad gives you detailed descriptions of collectibles from popular shows of the '50s and '60s to make identification easy!
Softcover • 8-1/2 x 11 • 224 pages • 200 b&w photos • **TTT** • **$19.95**

Games
American Boxed Games and Their Makers, 1822-1992, with Values by Bruce Whitehill
For anyone who has spent a rainy day playing their favorite game, author Bruce Whitehill revives those fond memories with this nostalgic look at American board games. Contains listings for more than 2,850 games and features tips on determining the authenticity and value of any game. Softcover • 7 x 10 • 208 pages • 8-page color section • **GAME** • **$19.95**

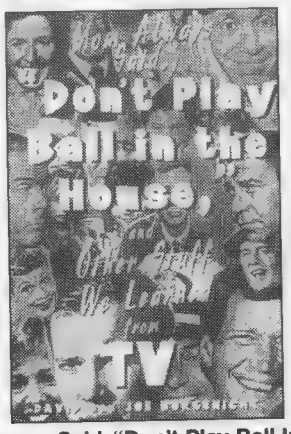


The TV Game Show Almanac
by John P. Holms and Ernest Wood
You'll strike it rich in information from more than 50 years of TV game shows. All you ever needed to know about the top shows, top hosts, lovely assistants, tough questions, and silly stunts. Includes tons of tasty trivia and quotable quizzes.
Softcover • 8-1/4 x 10-7/8 • 228 pages • 8-page color section • **TVGSA** • **$8.95**

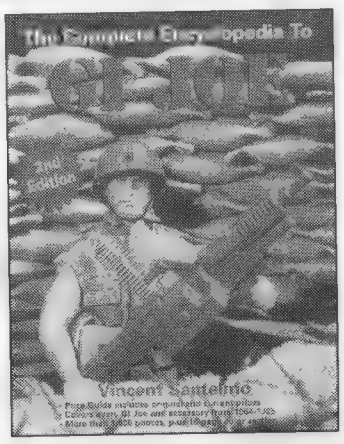
1998 Toys and Prices
5th Edition by Sharon Korbeck, editor
Journey through the toy collecting market with this accurate, newly updated price guide. Featuring up to three grades of value for more than 18,500 toys manufactured from 1843-1996. Covering 18 categories of toys, including-new this year-western and rock n' roll toys. Handy carry-along size.
Softcover • 6 x 9 • 912 pages • 500 b&w photos • 20 color photos • **TE05** • **$17.95**



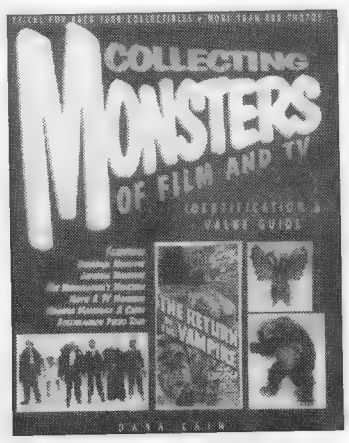
Tomart's Price Guide to Garage Sale Gold
by edited by Bob Welbaum
The next time you head to a sale, get out the calculator to add up your savings. You'll strike gold after mining 60 different categories of bargain bonanzas you'll encounter on the rummage sale circuit. If it's for sale, chances are it's inside this price guide.
Softcover • 8-1/4 x 10-7/8 • 152 pages • 1,000 photos • 8-page color section • **GSGOLD** • **$19.95**



Mom Always Said, "Don't Play Ball In The House,"...and Other Stuff We Learned from TV by by David and Joe Borgenicht
As the shows the Baby Boomers grew up with now find new audiences among today's "twentysomethings," you'll take a longing look back through quotes, songs, and questions and answers from the cartoons, police dramas, Sci-fi thrillers, kids' shows, and comedies that defined television in the 1970s and 1980s.
Softcover • 8-1/4 x 10-7/8 • 144 pages • **MASDPL** • **$10.95**



The Complete Encyclopedia to G.I. Joe
2nd Edition
by Vincent Santelmo
This newly revised and expanded edition offers the complete information on original and today's pricing for all G.I. Joe equipment, figurines and much more. Full illustrations from the original Action Series heroes to the ultra-modern 1990s Sonic Warriors collection
Softcover • 8-1/2 x 11 • 480 pages • 800 b&w photos • 60 color photos • **JO02** • **$27.95**



Collecting Monsters of Film and TV
Identification and Value Guide by Dana Cain
Find out the going price for movie posters, figures, puzzles, games, comics and hundred of other monster-related items. This encyclopedic reference is your guide to a mansion-full of haunted collectibles. Plus you'll take a tour of the Ackermansion with the famous monster collecting master. Softcover • 8-1/2 x 11 • 192 pages • 500 b&w photos • 130 color photos • **CTM** • **$22.95**

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CBG Calendar Notes

Correction: American Dream Gallery's Spaced exhibit has been held over until the end of July. The Superman exhibit which was listed last week is now scheduled to open Aug. 1. See the American Dream Gallery entry under "Continuing This Week" for more information

Shows listed are multiple-day, non-mall-show events with the primary focus on comic books. Further information about these and other shows, as well as creator appearances, can be found each week in the ***CBG*** features *What, Where, and When* and *Now Appearing*.

• **4th Annual Canadian National Comic Book Expo**, June 26-28 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, 255 Front St. W., South Building, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Guests include: Greg Capullo, Dale Keown, Joseph Linsner, Joe Quesada, Jimmy Palmiotti, and John Romita Jr. Admission: $10/day; $20/three days. Hours: Friday 4-9 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m.-6 pm.; Sunday 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Info: (416) 761-1760.

• **Words & Pictures Museum Lecture Series: Chris Oarr**, Friday, June 26, at 7 p.m. The executive director of the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund will speak about the organization and where it's heading. See the museum entry under "Continuing This Week" for more information.

Continuing This Week

• **American Dream Gallery**, 72 Walcot St., Bath, United Kingdom. Info: David Currie at 01225 424881. **Current exhibit: Spaced** exhibit of original *Babylon 5, Star Wars,* and *Star Trek* comics art continues through July 31.

• **Cartoon Art Museum**, 814 Mission St., San Francisco, CA. Info: (415) CAR-TOON. **Current exhibits: Charles Vess' *Stardust*** paintings will be exhibited through July 19.

• **A Comic Art Summer: "Made in Sherbrooke"** exhibit, through Oct. 4 at the Museum of Fine Arts of Sherbrooke (Musée dex Beaux-Arts de Sherbrooke), 241, Dufferin St., Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada (819) 821-2115, fax: (819) 821-4003. Works by eight comics artists from the Sherbrooke area will be on display: Albert Chartier, Marc Delafontaine, Richard Forgues, Alain Gosselin, Benoît Laverdière, Paul Le Brun, Hervé Philippe, and Daniel Shelton. The exhibition will be accompanied by a catalog and a series of eight comic books highlighting the work of each artist. It will also include the presentation of films on comic art and animation, as well as educational games for the entire family. In addition, "artist in residence" Paul Le Brun will be working on an album throughout the summer.

• **International Museum of Cartoon Art**, 201 Plaza Real, P.O. Box 1643, Boca Raton, FL 33429. Call for information on current exhibits: (561) 391-2200.

• **Sequential Art: The Next Step 3**, an exhibit of work by contemporary black comics artists, runs through July 19 at the Afro-American Cultural Center, 401 N. Myers St., Charlotte, NC. Featured artists include Darryl Banks, Malcolm Davis, Hannibal King, Mark Morales, Louis Small Jr., Brian Stelfreeze, and Larry Stroman. Special programming during the exhibit includes an opportunity for visitors to bring their own drawings for review by artist Rob Stull Saturday, July 4. Info: (704) 374-1565.

• **60 Years of Superman**, an exhibit spotlighting Superman's Canadian connections, through July 11 at the Nepean Museum, 16 Rowley Ave., Neapean, Canada (near Ottawa). Original art by Canadian artists Stuart Immonen and Leonard Kirk, as well as vintage Superman toys, postage stamps, clothing, books, comics and other memorabilia from the collections of Janet Hetherington, Ronn Sutton, and Dean Ross. Free admission. Info: Dan Hoffman, (613) 723-7936.

• **Words & Pictures Museum**, 140 Main St., Northampton, MA. Call for information on current exhibits: (413) 586-8545.

• **The X-Files Art of Miran Kim** exhibit runs through July 17 at the Trumbull Art Gallery, 720 Mahoning Ave. N.W., Warren, OH. The show will feature 26 original pieces of art from the covers and interiors of Topps' *X-Files* comics. Info: (330) 395-4876

SUN, JUN 21

Father's Day

Born on this date:
Leonard (John) Clark
Al Hirschfeld (1903) **95** years ago
Gary Carlson (1957)
Barry D. Petersen (1961)
Laughland Pelle (1969)

MON, JUN 22

Born on this date:
Alan Gordon (1953) **45** years ago
Susan Barrows (1956)
Kevin Fagan (1956)
Paul Simione (1956)
Armando Gil (1959)
Bill Jaaska (1961)

TUES, JUN 23

***CBG* #1286** ships — featuring Gemstone's E.C. reprints and a free entertainment card price guide insert.

Born on this date:
Frank Bolle (1924)

New comics scheduled to ship this week

The following information is taken from publisher and distributor solicitations and updates and is as accurate as possible at press time. Check with your local retailer to find out what day new comics go on the shelves. Comics that are delayed or rescheduled will be tracked in future *CBG Calendars*.

Note: ✪ indicates a rescheduled comic book that appeared in a previous *CBG Calendar*.

Acclaim Comics
Eternal Warriors: Immortal Enemy, $3.95
Troublemakers #19, $2.50
X-O Manowar #21, $2.50

Amaze Ink/Slave Labor
✪ *Dork* #6, $2.95 (Apr)
✪ *Sky Ape* #4, $2.95 (Apr)

Archie Comics
Archie #475, $1.75
Betty & Veronica Summer Fun #5, $2.25
Pals 'n' Gals Double Digest #35, $2.95
Sonic Super Special #6, $2.25
Veronica #79, $1.75

Blatant Comics
✪ *Ebonix Files* #1 (two covers), $3.95 (two nude eds., $9.95) (Apr)
✪ *Xxxena vs. Spicey Girls* #1 (two covers), $2.95 (two nude eds., $9.95) (Apr)

BV Books
✪ *Brinke of Destruction: The Series* #2, $2.50 (Mar)

Caliber
✪ *Caliber HC Library Series: Renfield*, $19.95 (Mar)

Chaos Comics
Dead King #3 (of 4), $2.95
Evil Ernie #1, $2.95

Dark Horse Comics
✪ *Aliens: Stalker* #1, $2.50 (May 3-9)
Aliens vs. Predator: Eternal #1 (of 4), $2.50
Blade of the Immortal: On Silent Wings #2 (of 8), $2.95
Dead or Alive: A Cyberpunk Western #3 (of 4), $2.50
Edgar Rice Burroughs' Tarzan/Carson of Venus #2 (of 4), $2.95
✪ *Elric: Stormbringer TPB*, $17.95 (Jun. 14-20)
Ghost Special #2, $3.95
✪ *Land of Nod* #4 (of 4), $2.95 (Apr)
Legend of Mother Sarah: City of Angels #8 (of 9), $3.95
Sergio Aragonés' Boogeyman #1 (of 4), $2.95
Spirit of Wonder TPB, $12.95
300 #2 (of 5), $2.95

DC Comics
Batman: Legends of the Dark Knight #109, $1.95
Books of Faerie: Auberon's Tale #1 (of 3), $2.50
Catwoman #60, $1.95
Flash #140, $1.95
Gross Point #14, $2.50
Hellblazer #128, $2.25
Hitman #29, $2.25
House of Secrets #22, $2.50
Invisibles Vol. 2 #17, $2.50
JLA #21, $1.95
Legion of Super-Heroes #107, $2.25
Looney Tunes #43, $1.95
Nevada #4 (of 6), $2.50
Nightwing and Huntress #4 (of 4), $1.95
Robin #56, $1.95
Supergirl #24, $1.95
Superman: Exile TPB, $14.95
Superman: The Man of Steel #82, $1.95
Teen Titans #23, $1.95
Unknown Soldier TPB, $12.95
Wonder Woman #136, $1.95
Young Heroes in Love #15, $1.95

Gladstone
Uncle Scrooge & Donald Duck #3, $9.95
Walt Disney's Comics in Color #4, $9.95

Harmon Comics
✪ *Maiden Hell* #1, $2.95 (Apr)

Image Comics
Battle Chasers #3, $2.50
DV8 #19, $2.50
Gen[13] Bootleg #19, $2.50
Sonic Super Special #6, $2.25
Veronica #79, $1.75

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Walt Disney's Comics in Color #4, $9.95

Harmon Comics
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Image Comics
Battle Chasers #3, $2.50
DV8 #19, $2.50
Gen[13] Bootleg #19, $2.50

Marvel Comics
Avengers #7, $1.99
Conan: River of Blood #3 (of 3), $2.50
Iron Fist #2 (of 3), $2.50
Iron Man: Iron Age #1 (of 2), $5.99
Marvel Annual '98 Starring X-Man & The Hulk, $2.99
✪ *Marvel Universe* #3, $1.99 (Jun. 7-13)
Quicksilver #10, $1.99
Silver Surfer #142, $1.99
Spectacular Spider-Man #260, $1.99
Spider-Man: The Manga #17, $2.99
Spider-Man Unlimited #21, $2.99
Wolverine #127, $1.99
X-Force #80, $1.99

Sirius Entertainment
✪ *7th System* #3 (of 6), $2.95 (Apr)

Viz Communications
Eat-Man Part Two #5 (of 5), $2.95
Eat-Man Vol. 1: Full Course Meal TPB, $15.95
Ranma 1/2 Part Seven #5 (of 14), $2.95

New comics preview: Coming in July part 2 (H-Z)

Harris Comics
Vampirella/Shi: Queen's Gambit #2, $2.95

Head Press
No Justice, No Piece #2, $2.95

Heavy Metal Magazine
Heavy Metal (Sep 98), $4.95

Hierographics
Synwulfe: Bounty Hunter #1, $2.95
Tribal Force #2, $2.95

Hobnob Press
Curbside TPB, $8

Hurricane Comics
Chassis Vol. 2 #2, $2.95
Violent Messiahs #2, $2.95

Hyperwerks Comics
Weasel Guy/Witchblade, $2.95

I Box Publishing
Thieves & Kings #23, $2.35

Image Comics
Altered Image #3 (of 3), $2.50
Big Bang Comics #21, $2.95
Classic Alex Toth Zorro TPB, $15.95
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Curse of the Spawn #23, $1.95
Danger Girl #4, $2.50
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A Distant Soil: The Ascendant, $18.95
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Fathom #1, $2.50
Gen[13] #31, $2.50
Gen[13] Bootleg #20, $2.50
Gen[13] Interactive Plus, $11.95
Gen[13]/Monkeyman & O'Brien #2, $2.50
Heartbreakers Superdigest, $9.95
Jackie Chan's Spartan X #5 (of 6), $2.95
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Witchblade #25, $2.95

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Stranger than Fiction #2, $1.99

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Titanic Tales TPB, $17.95

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Cutie Honey Vol. 2 #2, $2.95
Dragon Wars #4, $2.95
Futaba-Kun Change Vol. 1 #1, $2.95
Gun Crisis #3 (of 3), $2.95
New Vampire Miyu Vol. 2 #4, $2.95

Job's Comfort Comics
Myoparchy #3, $2.95

Joe Chiappetta
Silly Daddy #18, $2.75

Kenzer & Company
Knights of the Dinner Table #21, $2.95
Knights of the Dinner Table: Bundle of Trouble Vol. 1, $9.95

Kitchen Sink Press
Lost Cause (hardcover), $24.95
Oink: Blood and Circus #4 (of 4), $4.95
Spirit: The New Adventures #5, $3.50
Will Eisner's Family Matter TPB, $15.95
Zot! Book Three, $19.95

Knightstone
Tekken 2 #1, $2.95

Lady Luck Ltd.
Fiction: Shades of Grey (w/music CD), $14.95

Laszlo Press
All the Wrong Places #3, $2.95

Liar Comics
More than Mortal Sagas #1, $2.95

Limelight Publishing
Guardian Knights #6, $2.95
Wild Side #3, $3.95

London Night Studios
Arizona: Simple Horror #2, $3
Poizon: Demon Hunter #4 (of 4), $3 (nude ed., $6)
Razor Uncut #50, $3
Skid Roze #1, $3

Lone Star Press
Heroic Tales #7, $2.50
Pantheon #2 (of 12), $2.95

Lunar Studios
CarbonKnight #4, $4.95

Market Square Productions
Slice Girls Comic #1, $2.95

Marvel Comics
Alpha Flight #14, $1.99
Amazing Spider-Man #438, #439, $1.99
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X-Men #79, $1.99
X-Men: The Manga #12, #13, $2.99
X-Men Unlimited #20, $2.99

Mixx Publications
Mixxzine Vol. 2 #1, $4.99

MN Design Productions
Nova Girls #2, $1.95 (spec. ed., $2.95)

Moordam Comics
Mr. Beat: Superstar, $3 (spec. ed., $10)

Mu Press
Zu #18, $2.95

Nature Publishing House
Science Comic Book: Beyond the Stars, $8.95
Science Comic Book: Weather Genie, $8.95
Science Comic Book: World of Dinosaurs, $8.95

NBM
A Jew in Communist Prague Vol. 3: Rebellion, $11.95
Secrets, $16.95
III Millennium, $18.95

New England Comics
Tick's Big Giant Summer Special #1, $3.50

Ngng Studios
Rana 7 #3, $2.95

Oni Press
Jay & Silent Bob #2 (of 4), $2.95
Oni Double Feature #7,

(Continues on next page)

Publishers

To see your comics listed here, please supply the exact shipping date for each title *as soon as possible*, preferably at least one month ahead of time. Send the information to: Maggie Thompson, CBG Calendar, 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990. The same goes for any other announcements, additions, and corrections.

WED, JUN 24

Born on this date:
Doreen Frederick
Alan N. Zelenetz (1948) **50** years ago
Russ Maheras (1954)
Denis Rodier (1963) **35** years ago
Kevin VanHook (1965)

THURS, JUN 25

Born on this date:
William Woolfolk (1917)
Alex Toth (1928) **70** years ago
Jerry Bingham (1953) **45** years ago

FRI, JUN 26

4th Annual Canadian National Comic Book Expo begins in Toronto. See Calendar Notes.

Words & Pictures Museum Lecture Series: Chris Oarr — see Calendar Notes.

Born on this date:
Warren Kremer (1921)
Jerry Bails (1933) **65** years ago
Bob Weber (1934)
Tom DeFalco (1950)
Terry Tidwell (1954)
Gerry Giovinco (1960)

SAT, JUN 27

Born on this date:
Paul Conrad (1924)
Willie Peppers (1959)
Dan Jurgens (1959)
Jackson "Butch" Guice (1961)
Bernie Mireault (1961)
Barry Kraus (1964)
Andrew T. Walls (1966)

Shipping in May (From previous page)
$2.95
Pander Bros.' Complete Secret Broadcast (w/CD), $16.95
Whiteout #1 (of 4), $2.95

Pan Entertainment
Knewts of the Round Table #1, $2.50

Paper Life Studio
Julie's Journey/Gravity #3, $2.50

Permanent Press
Patty-Cake Prime Collection TPB, $14

Psychic Donut
Crackbaby #1, $2.95

Radio Comix
Furrlough #67, $2.95
Hit the Beach 1998, $2.95 (spec. ed., $4.95)
Rivets and Ruby #3, $2.95

Raven Comics
Faerie Codex #5, $2.95

Realm Press
Battlestar Galactica #7 (2 covers), $2.99

Red Eye Press
Valentine #3, $2.95

Red Menace Comics
Kansas Thunder #4, $2.95

Samson Comics
Scourge #1, $2.50

Shanda Fantasy Arts
New Horizons #4, $4.50
SFA International: Frenchie Doudou #1, $4.50
SFA Spotlight: Furtual Reality #3, $4.50

SIA Entertainment
Chilltown #1, $1.95

Silverline
Switchblade #3 (of 3), $2.95

Sirius Entertainment
Akiko #26, $2.50
Broken Heroes #5, $2.50
Empty Zone #2, $2.50
Morrigan TPB, $9.95
Poe #9, $2.50
Poison Elves #37, $2.50
Reality Check #11, $2.95
7th System #4 (of 6), $2.95

Slab-o-Concrete
Dream Watcher, $8.50
End #3, $3.50

Soaring Penguin
Meanwhile #3, $2.95

Solson Entertainment
How to Draw Comics #1, $4.95
How to Draw Fantasy Art, $19.95
How to Draw Sexy Women #1, $4.95

Sovereign Comics
Soldier of God #3, $2.95

Thorby Enterprises
Spacegal #1 (of 8), $2.95

Three Finger Prints
Three Geeks #7, $2.50

Top Hat Comics
Tommy Rocket and the Goober Patrol #6, $1.99

Top Shelf Productions
James Kochalka's Magic Boy & Girlfriend TPB, $8.95

Topps Comics
Xena, Warrior Princess: The Original Olympics #2 (of 3) (2 covers), $2.95
Xena, Warrior Princess: The Wedding of Xena & Hercules (2 covers), $2.95
X-Files Season One: Shadows, $4.95

Troma Comics
Chosen One: Legend of the Raven #1, $2.50

TV Comics
Cray Baby Adventures: Wrath of the Peddidlers #3 (of 3), $2.95

Tyme Comics
Medieval Mayhem #3, $2.95

Verotik
Dalkiel: The Prophecy, $3.95
Richard Corben, Jaguar God: Return to X'ibalba, $4.95

Vision Comics
Extinctioners #1, $3.95
Katmandu #16, $2.95
Shanda the Panda #24, $2.95
Tall Tails #1, $2.95

Viz Communications
Ashen Victor #4 (of 4), $2.95
Battle Angel Alita Vol. 9: Angel's Ascension TPB, $16.95
Dragonball #5 (of 12), $2.95
Dragonball Z #5 (of 9), $2.95
Inu-Yasha Vol. 2 TPB, $15.95
Inu-Yasha: A Feudal Fairy Tale Part Two #1 (of 9), $2.95
Maison Ikkoku Part Seven #13 (of 13), $3.25
Manga Vizion Vol. 4 #7, $4.95
Neon Genesis Evangelion Book Two #5 (of 5) (2 eds.), $2.95
Neon Genesis Evangelion Vol. 1 TPB (2 eds.), $16.50
No Need for Tenchi Part Five #2 (of 5), $3.25
Pulp Vol. 2 #8, $5.95
Ranma 1/2 Part Seven #6 (of 14), $2.95

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Warp Graphics
Elfquest #26, $4.95

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Observable, $5.95

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Silky Whip #4, $3.50
Submissive Suzanne #6, $2.95
Voice of Submission #2, $2.95
Yuppies, Rednecks ... from Mars #8, $2.95

Girl on Girl
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Young Girl on Girl Passion & Fashion #1 (2 covers), $4

Hustler Comix
Hustler Comix #8, $4.99

Ironcat
Love Drive #3, $2.95
Ogenki Clinic Vol. 2 #5, $2.95

Last Gasp
Collected Checkered Demon Vol. 1, $19.95

London Night Studios
Full Metal Femme Magazine #1, $5.95 (nude ed., $7.95)

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Biker Chicks vs. Hot Young Sluts #1, $4

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Carnal Comics: True Stories of Adult Film Stars: Summer Cummings & Skye Blue #1, $3.50

Shanda Fantasy Arts
Katmandu: Velites & Hoplites, $8.95

Shipping notes and updates

• **Confirmed shiping:** We have received confirmation that the following MIA titles have shipped and should be available in stores. This reflects shipping information received through June 5.

Amaze Ink/Slave Labor: *Squee* #4, $2.95 (Feb)

• **June 7-13:** The following items have been added to publishers' shipping schedules for this week, in addition to those items listed in previous *CBG Calendars*.

Amaze Ink/Slave Labor: *Dim-Witted Darryl* #1, $2.95 (Jun)
Lenore #2, $2.95 (Jun)
Gemstone: *Crime SuspenStories* #24, $2.50 (Jun)
Frontline Combat #13, $2.50 (Jun)
Haunt of Fear #24, $2.50 (Jun)
Piracy #6, $2.50 (Jun)
Two-Fisted Tales Annual #5, $10.95 (Jun)
Image: *Kabuki* #4, $2.95 (May)
Leave It to Chance #10, $2.95 (May)
Kitchen Sink: *Oink: Blood and Circus* #2 (of 4), $4.95 (May)
Topps: *Xena, Warrior Princess: Orpheus* #3 (of 3) (two covers), $2.95 (May)

• **June 14-20:** The following items have been added to publishers' shipping schedules for this week, in addition to those items listed in previous *CBG Calendars*.

Arrow: *Dark Oz* #5 (of 5), $2.75 (Apr)

Cancellations

The following items have been announced as canceled or postponed. If a publisher resolicits for any of these items, they will be listed again in the *CBG Calendar*.

ABC: *Wild Thingz* #1 (Apr)
Acclaim: *Concrete Jungle: Legend of the Black Lion* #2, #3 (May, Jun)
Adventure: *Anubis* #8 (Jun)
Amaze Ink/Slave Labor: *Iliad* #7 (Jun)
Awesome: *Kaboom* #4-6 (Feb-Apr)
Scarlet Crush #3, #4 (Mar, May)
Supreme #57-61 (Feb-Jun)
Caliber: *Lemon Custard* #2 (Apr)
Crusade: *Shi: The Essential Dark Crusade* (May)
Dimension 5: *Hybrid Etherworlds* #4 (Apr)
DNA: *DNA Swamp* #4 (Jan)
Draco: *Claus* #3 (May)
Fantagraphics: *Filthy* (May)
Forbidden: *Demon B****: Devilspawn* #1 (Apr)
Girl on Girl: *Girl on Girl: Massage* #1 (Apr)
Girl on Girl: Young Mind Control #1 (Apr)
Goblin: *Peacekeeper* #1 (Apr)
Image: *Grease Monkey* #3 (May)
Hellshock #5 (May)
Immortelle: *Prophecy* #2 (Jun)
Lightning: *Sinthia* #4 (May)
Murim: *Tzu the Reaper* #5 (Apr)
Naked City: *All Girls School: Flames of Hell* #1 (Apr)
Peggy Sue & Tangerine: Free Rent #1 (Apr)
Penthouse: *Penthouse Comix* #34 (Jun)
Peregrine: *Wicked* #1 (Jun)
Red Eye: *Valentine* #4 (Apr); rescheduled for August.
Smiling Face: *Chadz Frendz* #3 (Apr)
TV: *Munsters* #5 (Apr)
Vision: *Hard Core* #2 (May); rescheduled for August.
Warp: *Elflord Cuts Loose* #8 (May)
Zen: *History of the Barbi Twins* (Apr)

Point of View

From Page 24

So I carried my suitcase outside. The man locked up the airport, got into his car, and went home for dinner.

I went to a pay phone and called my answering machine back in Los Angeles. There was a message from someone who said, "Well, guess you're not in, Evanier. You're probably out doing something glamorous like you TV writers always do."

I thought, *Yes, I'm doing something glamorous. I'm standing with my luggage outside a closed, one-room airport in Muncie, Indiana. How much more exciting can life be?* A minute or so later, Thom showed up.

On the way to the hotel, I got to see a little of Muncie. There is only a little of Muncie, so it was a fairly exhaustive tour. I never saw so much farmland before — and such flat terrain. No mountains as far as the eye could see. You'd think, with Jim's money, he could spring for a few bucks and buy the town a hill or something.

But it was a fascinating experience. At one point, a town resident asked me if I was Jewish. I told him I was, and he asked if he could take a picture with me.

The next morn, Thom picked me up at the hotel and drove me past cow pastures and rows of crops, all the way to the surprisingly modern building complex that is Paws, Incorporated — Jim Davis' company. I met a big staff of happy, talented people. I watched Jim work on the strip. We talked about jokes and characters and plots and, basically, I went to Garfield College. By the time I left, I was starting to grow orange stripes.

I'm telling you all about this junket for two reasons. One is so that I can use some of my Muncie jokes. The other is so I can recount the following moment ...

Jim and I were working in the big conference room, and one of his associates came in with the prototype for a new Garfield toy. It was a sculptured plastic thingie and the model had to be okayed before the manufacturer could commence full production. It looked fine to me.

But Jim looked at it, winced, and said, "That's wrong. I told them to move the eyes like this —" And he picked up a marker and indicated how the eyes should be moved a fraction of an inch apart.

The associate said, "It'll cost them $20,000, if they have to break the molds and redo it again."

Jim said, "So —?"

That was it. The OK was withheld, the molds were broken and remade, the toy came out. I made a point of inquiring later how it had done and was told it had been a huge success. What can we learn from this?

Jim still doesn't know how close he came, that day in Muncie, to getting a big wet one right on the lips. On the flight home, as the tiny plane swooped low to dust crops, I decided that I'd been given a rare opportunity. After years of working on cartoon shows produced on Pic-and-Save budgets, I was going to get to do a show without seeing every possible corner cut. A little voice that sounded amazingly like Judy Price's said to me, "Don't blow it, you jerk."

Did the jerk blow it? That's not for the jerk to say, but he will point out that it was one of the highest-rated Saturday-morn shows for seven years. It would have stayed on longer, but CBS asked Lee, Jim, and Phil to do the show for less, and they declined. I agreed with the decision.

Whether the show was any good, you can judge for yourself. The first 73 half-hours (of 121 produced) are on Nickelodeon twice a day and on many local channels, as well. If you tune in, I hope you don't get one of the ones that I didn't like — but I was proud of the overall batting average. And, after I finish this, I'm working on the script for a new Garfield cartoon project we have coming up.

In upcoming weeks, I'll write a few columns about the production of the show — the voice actors, the artists, the producers, *etc.* — and try to give them their due. We had a wonderful team, and they deserve more accolades than I have room for here. I'm glad we all had the chance to work together on this and not on something like a Michael Jackson cartoon series.

For one thing, Garfield is more realistic.

Mark Evanier can be reached at 363 S. Fairfax Ave., #303, Los Angeles, CA 90036 or in cyberspace at evanier@ix.netcom.com.

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- Automatic weekly price updates via email. Just send us your email address.

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TERMS: Ad placed: 03/12/98
1) Minimum order - $100.00
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7) Prices subject to change.
8) All sales final.
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AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

4	VG	$150
13	VG/FN	$ 80
30	VG/FN	$ 20
32,35	VG/FN	$ 20
34	FN	$ 22
37,38	VG/FN	$ 20
44,47	VG	$ 10
51	FN	$ 36
53	FN	$ 14
54	VG	$ 8
55,58	FN	$ 14
62,64	VG/FN	$ 9
67,69	FN	$ 11
100	NM	$ 95
101	VF	$ 50
112	FN/VF	$ 7
139	VF/NM	$ 4
Ann. 2	VG	$ 30
K.S. 4	FN	$ 12
K.S.8	VF/NM	$ 15

AVENGERS

10	FN	$ 35
12	VF/NM	$ 70
14	VG/FN	$ 17
93	FN/VF	$ 8

BATMAN

115	VG	$ 35
124,132	VG	$ 18
135,143	VG/FN	$ 20
163	GD/VG	$ 7
174	VG/FN	$ 5
199	FN	$ 5

DAREDEVIL

9	VG	$ 18
11,13	VG/FN	$ 12
13	FN	$ 15
16	VG	$ 10
17,19,20	FN	$ 12
20	FN/VF	$ 15
21,22,25	FN	$ 8
29	VG/FN	$ 5
29	VF/NM	$ 18
30	FN	$ 8
33,34	VF/NM	$ 15
32,34	VG/FN	$ 4
36	VF	$ 8
38,40	FN/VF	$ 6
42	FN	$ 5
113	NM	$ 4
134,135	NM	$ 4
150,152	NM	$ 4
154	NM	$ 4
KS 1	FN	$ 6
KS 2	VG/FN	$ 3

FANTASTIC 4

37	VG/FN	$ 12
47	NM	$ 55
60	FN	$ 12
67	FN	$ 20
68	VF	$ 15
69	FN	$ 10
80	VG/FN	$ 8
81	FN/VF	$ 9
96	FN/VF	$ 8
107	FN/VF	$ 5
125	VF	$ 3
ANN. 2	VG	$ 25
G.S. 5	NM	$ 5

FLASH

126,131	VG/FN	$ 18
140	VG/FN	$ 12
146,150	FN	$ 18
152	FN/VF	$ 18
168	VG/FN	$ 10
173	VF	$ 20
178	FN	$ 16
200	FN/VF	$ 10

GREEN LANTERN

15	VG/FN	$ 22
42	FN/VF	$ 20
53	VG/FN	$ 8
78	VF/NM	$ 22

IRON MAN

2	VF/NM	$ 50
6	NM	$ 45
31	VF/NM	$ 8
54	NM	$ 12

X-MEN

2	VF	$800
3	VG	$ 60
14	FN	$ 50
21	VG	$ 16
23,25	FN	$ 20
26,29	FN	$ 20
30	VG/FN	$ 14
34	FN	$ 12
36	VG/FN	$10
37	FN/VF	$ 20
38	FN/VF	$ 25
42	FN/VF	$ 18
55	FN/VF	$ 20
57	VF	$ 20

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222,231 VG-F 52.50
246,251 F 51.00
253 VG 66.00
Adventure
64 G 144.00
247 F-VF 1500.00
253 F-VF 104.50
267 VG-F 160.00
166,167 VG 72.00
203 VG-FexST 54.00
223,236,238,239, 241,244 VG 41.00
232-234,246 F 62.00
229,235,237,240, 242-244VG-F 52.00
248,251,252VG 32.00
249,254 F 48.00
249,250VG-F 40.00
256 VG-F 115.00
257 VF 84.50
258,259 VG-F 32.50
267 G 64.00
269 F 63.00
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32 G 106.00
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4 F 98.00
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8 G 43.00
13 VG 76.00
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15 R a F- 1850.00
Amazing Spiderman
1 R a F 1300.00
1 G 700.00
2 pm NS Fair 150.00
2 G 214.00
3 VF+ ex sm MC still att. 1200.00
3 G+ 170.00
6 G 96.00
4 VG 276.00
9 VG- 131.00
5 VG-F 300.00
24 F-VF 91.00
2 Fair-G 182.00
50 F 105.00
101 F-VF 62.00
129 F-VF 60.00
4 Fair-G 118.00
12 VF 295.00
16 VF-NM ex slt MC 235.00
17 VG-F 117.00
18 VF 235.00
19 F-VF 143.00
20,23 F 96.00
7,10 VG-F 165.00
15 VF 356.00
16 F-VF 168.00
19 SmSSBC VF 195.00
33 SmSSBC NM 150.00
12 F 120.00
15 F+ 160.00
16 F- 90.00
25 F+ 80.00
26 F 78.00
40 F-VF 138.00
10 G-VG 99.00
Amazing Spiderman
9 VF 545.00
8 VF ex sm indenture c 346.00
10 VF ex sm tears bottom c 255.00
17 F- 127.00
18,20 F- 90.00
24 VF 124.00
27 SmSSBC V-VF 117.00
29,31,33,34 VF 98.00
38 VF-NM 124.00
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44,48 VF-NM 70.00
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3 F 126.00
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2 VG 52.00
The Atom
1 G 63.00
7 VG 126.00
7 VG 52.00
29 VF 91.00
Avengers
1 VF ex 1t Ad stamped c,1t ss inside bc 880.00
1 VG+ 388.00
1 F-VF ex 1 sm S Sp, 1 MC 528.00
1 F-VF 880.00
1 F 528.00
1 VG 352.00
1 VG-F 440.00
2 VG- 94.00
Avengers
2 VG-F 130.00
3 F 105.00
3 VG+ 77.00
4 G 125.00
3 VG-F 88.00
4 VG 250.00
4 F-VF 657.00
4 1t cr at corner of c VF 938.00
5 F 68.00
6,7 F 54.00
8 VF- 106.00
8 VF-NM 150.00
8 NM 180.00
9 VF 120.00
10 VF-NM 130.00
10 VF 101.00
11 VFex 1t cr c 88.00
13,14 VF-NM 95.00
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John SteedE.P. (GK)
1 VF 144.00
Batman
70 Vg+ 110.00
98 VG-F 100.00
55 G-VG 117.00
102 VG+ 69.00
103 VG-F 77.50
108 F 93.00
109 VG 62.00
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40 G+ 123.00
113 VG-F 73.00
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41 VG+.....18.00
43 VF-(-).....26.50
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60 VF.....19.50
69 VF+(+).....25.00

DAREDEVIL
11 G.....2.00
22 VF-.....12.50
34 VF/VF+.....8.50
36 VG.....2.00
37 VF++.....9.50
38 VF.....6.50
39 F.....2.50

FANTASTIC 4
30 VF- 45.00
40 VF-.....37.50
41 VF-.....25.50
64 G-.....1.50
68 F+.....9.00
82 VG 3.00
85 VG.....2.50
86 F/VF-.....5.00
89 VF+.....12.50
92 VF.....7.50
93 NM.....16.00
95 VF/VF+.....8.50
113 VF+.....3.00
Ann#5 VF/VF+.69.00
Ann#6 G.....4.00

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69 F+.....3.50
82 VF-.....8.50
90 F.....3.00

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61 VG++.....4.50
62 G.....3.00
64 F++.....9.00
65 G/VG.....15.00
66 VF-.....35.00
68 VG+.....4.50
69 VG+/F-.....4.00
78VF-.....12.50
83 VF-.....12.50
86 G+.....3.00
88 VF++.....18.00
90 VG+.....3.50
92 VG.....3.50
97 VG+.....3.50
98G+.....2.50

THOR
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127 VG.....3.00
133 FR.....2.00
135 VF/NM.....32.00
155 G.....2.00
160 VF++.....12.00
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169 VF+.....13.00
173 F+.....4.50
337NM+.....2.50

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102 VF+/NM.....30.00
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Hulk
104 F+.....13.50
105 F+.....12.50
113 VF++.....16.50
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5 F+.....7.50
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5,6 F+.....2.00 ea
Chamber of Darkness
1 VG+.....3.00

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139F+.....3.00
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54 VF++.....38.00
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small cvr. area under inked
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brown inside cvr edges

THOR
105 F+.....12.00
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59	VG+	10.00	1	VF	15.00	50	VG	8.00	59	VG	20.00	17	VF	6.00
64	VG	15.00	2	NM	10.00	58	F	15.00	61	VG	20.00	18	VF	6.00
67	VG	5.00	3	NM	10.00	64	F+	15.00	80	G	30.00	19	F	2.50
75	VG+	12.50	4	NM	10.00	TALES OF ASGUARD			82	VG	8.00	19	VF-	4.00
79	VG	7.00	12	NM	5.00	1	F+	5.00	85	VG	8.00	20	F	2.50
82	VG	7.00	A1	NM	4.50	TALES/ UNEXPECTED			99	VG	5.00	20	F+	3.00
84	F	4.00	S W DARK EMPIRE			5	G	17.50	110	VG	5.00	21	VF	5.00
84	F	4.00	1	NM	10.00	15	G	10.00	112	VG	5.00	21	VF	6.00
SGT. FURY			2	NM	10.00	64	VG	7.50	130	G	5.00	22	F	2.50
16	F	9.00	STRANGE ADVENTURES			71	F	10.00	138	VG+	10.00	22	VF	5.00
20	VF	15.00	95	G	6.00	81	F	10.00	158	F+	5.00	23	NM	10.00
23	VF	9.00	109	VG	7.50	85	F+	10.00	UNLCE SCROOGE			23	VF	3.50
38	F+	3.50	128	G	6.00	87	VG+	5.00	25	VG	10.00	24	NM-	7.00
SILVER SURFER			140	VG+	3.00	97	F	5.00	31	F	20.00	24	VF+	5.00
2	F	25.00	142	VG	3.00	98	VG	3.50	THOR			25	NM	8.00
3	F	25.00	148	VG+	5.00	99	F+	7.50	127	F	7.50	23	VF	3.50
5	F	12.50	153	VG	5.00	100	F	7.50	130	F	5.00	26	F	2.50
7	F+	15.00	153	F	8.00	100	F+	7.50	131	G	2.00	29	NM-	7.00
8	VG	5.00	156	VG	5.00	TALES OF SUSPENSE			133	VF	12.50	29	NM	8.00
9	F+	15.00	162	F	5.00	46	VG	15.00	133	F+	10.00	EERIE		
9	VG	5.00	163	F	5.00	51	VG	10.00	134	F	7.50	3	VF	15.00
10	VG-	5.00	164	F	4.50	61	VG-	5.00	134	VG	5.00	4	F+	5.00
10	F	7.50	STRANGE TALES			68	VG	5.00	134	F	7.50	22	NM-	10.00
12	VG+	6.00	120	VG	7.00	69	VG-	5.00	137	VF+	18.00	25	VF	5.00
13	VG	4.00	128	F-	7.00	72	F	5.00	137	VG	3.00	27	NM	8.00
SUB-MARINER			129	VF	15.00	77	F	5.00	138	VF+	18.00	51	VF+	5.00
1	F	12.50	131	VG-	5.00	83	F+	10.00	139	VF	12.50	56	NM	6.00
2	F	7.50	138	F+	6.00	85	F+	10.00	139	G	1.00	57	VF+	3.00
6	F	2.50	149	VF	12.50	85	VG	5.00	143	VG	2.50	59	VF	2.00
9	F	4.00	149	VG+	4.00	86	F+	5.00	145	G	1.00	73	NM	5.00
10	F	4.00	153	VF	10.00	89	VG	3.00	150	VG	3.00	74	VF	2.00
SUPERBOY			155	F	4.00	91	G	1.50	WORLD'S FINEST			74	F	1.00
84	G+	5.00	158	F	4.00	93	VG	1.50	100	FA	8.00	77	NM	5.00
98	VG+	1.00	160	VG+	2.50	94	F	4.00	102	VG	12.50	104	NM	2.00
124	VF+	12.50	161	F	3.50	95	F	4.00	114	VG	10.00	107	NM	2.00
SUPERMAN			163	VG+	2.50	96	F	5.00	116	F	12.50	114	NM	2.00
122	G	12.00	164	F	3.50	96	F	5.00	119	F	12.50	115	VF+	2.00
165	VG	4.00	166	VG	2.50	X-MEN			120	VG	10.00	138	VF-	2.00
184	F	8.00	SWAMP THING			97	VG	4.00	122	F	7.50	D C COMIC FANDOM		
200	VG	4.00	1	VG	10.00	30	F	12.50	123	F	7.50	17	NM	100.00
203	VG	3.50	THE TEXAN			33	F	10.00	126	VG+	5.00	#1 HAS KIRBY S.GNATURE		
205	VG	3.50	5	VG	5.00	36	F+	15.00	127	F	7.50	SPEC SPIDER MAN MAG		
206	F	4.00	TOKA			51	F+	10.00	127	F	7.50	1	VF	20.00
209	VG	3.50	1	VF	5.00	53	F+	12.50	128	F	7.50	2	VF+	20.00
211	VG+	4.00	THE UNTOUCHABLES			98	VF	25.00	130	F	7.50	WOLVERINE (MINI)		
			879-207	F	10.00	102	NM	15.00	136	VG	5.00	1	NM	5.00
						114	NM	10.00	137	F+	9.00	3	NM	5.00

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THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF HEROES PAST

216 RIVERSIDE DR. HAVELOCK, NC 28532 (919)447-5946
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Please make check or money order payable to Allen James. Please ad $6 for shipping and insurance.
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ADVENTURE COMICS			AMAZING ADVENTURES			DAREDEVIL			TOMB OF		
41	VG	$825.	1	F	$11.	8	VF	$100.	DRACULA		
CAPTAIN AMERICA			2	VF	$8.	9	VF	$100.	1	VF+	$80.
9	VG+	$200.	SPIDER-MAN			40	NM	$25.	2	VF	$30.
12	G	$350.	5	VG	$240.	FANTASTIC FOUR			3	VF	$20.
DAREDEVIL BATTLES HITLER			7	VG	$150.	4	VG	$425.	4	NM	$30.
1	F	$3000.	8	F	$200.	48	VF	$600.	5	VF	$20.
DAREDEVIL COMICS			14	VF	$750.	FEAR			WEIRD WAR		
2	VF	$1600.	36	VF	$95.	2	VF	$10.	TALES		
HUMAN TORCH			AVENGERS			10	NM	$20.	16	F	$5.
2(1)	VG	$3200.	2	VG	$100.	FLASH			WEIRD WESTERN		
28	F	$300.	4	VG	$250.	106	VG	$235.	TALES		
KID KOMICS			BATMAN			107	G	$70.	12	VG	$8.
1	F	$1000.	165	VF	$65.	108	VG	$110.	X-MEN		
MORE FUN			167	VG	$10.	LONE RANGER			2	VF	$1200.
59	VF	$2000.	183	VG	$12.	52	G	$5.	5	VF	$300.
PLANET COMICS			243	NM	$30.	68	G	$5.	7	VF	$250.
57	VF	$375.	ANNUAL			MARVEL SPOTLIGHT			25	NM	$95.
SKY PILOT			5	NM	$125.	2	VF	$60.	27	VF	$60.
11	NM	$80.	BLITZKRIEG			MONSTER OF			29	VF	$60.
THRILLING COMICS			1	F	$10.	FRANKENSTEIN			266	NM	$15.
34	VF	$200.	CAPTAIN AMERICA			1	NM-	$25.	BRAVE AND		
WEB OF MYSTERY			103	NM	$30.	2	VF+	$15.	BOLD		
10	F+	$75.	108	VF	$20.	SWAMP THING			113	VF+	$12.
			109	NM	$45.	1	NM	$75.			

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21 # 2,3 1963 #1-6 2099 UNLMTD # 1-4 2099 APOCALYPSE #1 2099 WORLD TOMORROW # 1-5, 7 ABOMINATIONS # 1-3 ALL ACCESS # 1-3 ACTION # 0,662,680,686,687,689-711,713-715, 728,732,735,738 ANN 1-8 ADV. OF CYCLOPS & PHOENIX # 1-3 FURTHER ADVS. # 1-4 ADVS. SUPERMAN # 0, 483,499-502,505,507-531,534,535,541,544,546-548,550,555 ANN 3-5 7 8 ALIENS/PREDATOR DEADLIEST # 1 ALLEGRA # 1-3 ALICE COOPER # 1-3 ALPHA FLIGHT SPEC. (1992) AMAZING FANTASY # 16-18 AMAZING SCARLET SPIDER # 1,2 AMAZING SPIDER-MAN # 357,358,362,363,366,367,373,374,377,380-385 ANN # 26 AMALGAMS (Amazon, Assassins, Bat-Thing, Bruce Wayne Agent SHIELD, Bullets & Bracelets, Challengers of the Fantastic, Dark Claw Adventures, Generation Hex, Iron Lantern, JLX, JLX Unleashed, Magneto & Magnetic Men, Spider-Boy Team-up, SuperSoldier) ANARKY #1-4 ANGELS OF DESTRUCTION # 1 ANIMA # 0-3,9-11 ANIMAL MAN # 50,52,54,56-62,72,75-78 ANNEX # 1-3 ARCBER & ARMSTRONG # 0-2,5-26 ARMAGEDDON 2001 # 1,2 ARMOR # 3,4 VOL. 2 # 4 ARMORINES # 1-10 ARSENAL # 1 ASH: CINER & SMOKE # 3-5 ASH: FIRE # 2 ASKANI SON # 3,4 ATOMIK ANGELS # 1-4 AVENGERS # 360,363,392 ANN 22 TIMESLIDE: AZRAEL # 1,6-8,13 BABE #2,4 BABE 2 # 1,2 BACKLASH # 8,10,11,21-23 BADROCK & CO. # 1-6 ANN # 1 BAR SINISTER # 1-4 BATMAN # 0,467,469,490,493-501,503-509 BATMAN LEGENDS # 2-11,28,34-37,42-49,51-58,61-69,76,77,81,82,99 ANN # 4 BATMAN SHADOWS # 0,1,6,7,9,13-15,17-21,35,49, ANN 1,2,4 BATMAN SPECIALS & MINIS (Bane, Death of Innocents, Jazz #1-3, Batman/Punisher, Batman Returns, Riddler, Run Riddler Run #1,3 , Two Face, Batman/Predator II # 1 BATTLESTAR GALACTICA: APOLLO'S JOURNEY # 1,2 ENEMY WITHIN # 1,2 STARBUCK # 1-3 BATTLETECH: FALLOUT # 1-4 BATTLETIDE # 1,2 BERZERKERS # 1-3 BIO BOOSTER GUYVER PT 5 # 1-6 PT 6# 2-4 BLACK FLAG # 0,1 BLACK HOOD (DC) #1-3 BLACK LIGHTNING (1995) 1-11 BLACK OPS # 3-5 BLACKWULF # 1-7 BLADE # 1-5 BLAZE # 1-11 BLOODPOOL # 1-4 BLOODSHOT # 0-51 YRBK 1 BLOODSTRIKE # 1-4,11-22 BLOODSTRIKE ASASSIN # 0-3 BLOOD SYNDICATE # 1-31 BLOODWULF # 2-4 Summer Spec BLOODY MARY: LADY LIBERTY # 1-4 BOB GALACTIC BUM # 1-3 BOMBAST # 1 BONE (IMAGE) # 4-6,9 BRASS # 2 3 BREED # 1,4-6 BREED II # 1,4-6 BRIGADE (MIND) # 1-3 BRIGADE (ONGOING) # 1-22 BRUTE & BABE (Infinity, Mael's Rage) CABLE (MINI) # 1,2 CABLE (ONGOING) # 1-3,5,33,34,39 CAGE # 1-19 CAPTAIN MARVEL (1995) # 1-6 CAPTAIN STERN # 1,2,4,5 CHAOS BIBLE CHAOS EFFECT (Omega, Epilouge: # 1,2) CHAPEL # 1-4 CHRONOWAR # 1-9 CLANDESTINE # 1-12 CODE NAME GENETIX # 1-4 CODENAME STRYKEFORCE # 0-14 CREECH # 1,2 CROW (Cry of Angels # 1-3 Dead Time # 1-3 Flesh & Blood # 2,3 Wild Justice # 1-3) CYBERFORCE (MIND) # 2-4 CYBERFORCE (ONGOING) # 1,8,10,12,15 ANN # 2 CYBERFROG # 1-3 CYBERNARY # 1-5 DANGER UNLTD # 1-3 DAREDEVIL # 293,300,350 DARKHAWK # 2-50 ANN # 1-3 DARKHOLD # 1-13 DARKSTARS # 1-29 DEATH: HIGH COST # 3 DEATHBLOW # 1,2,4-9,11-29 DEATHLOK # 1-34 ANN # 1,2 DEATHMATE (Blue, Yellow) DEATHSTROKE II # 1-14 DEATHSTROKE # 0-60 ANN # 1,2 DEMON # 0,5-12,14,15,21,23-40 ANN # 1 DETECTIVE #618-626,658,660-672,675-689, 92,714-718 ANN # 4-8 DR. 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Curator, Burroughs
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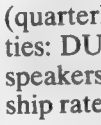
Phone: (502) 852-8729



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*MARVEL SPOTLIGHT 30 COVER/"WARRIORS THREE"
(NOT SIGNED IMAGE AREA IS BROWNED FROM MATTING) $150.00

SAL BUSCEMA *ANAL. SPIDER-MAN 181, P.14/SPLASH PAGE WITH FF $50.00
*PAGE 23, FEATURES SPIDEY VILLIANS $50.00
(ABOVE 2 PAGES HAVE BROWNED IMAGE AREAS FROM MATTING)

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FEATURING ELECTRA AND BULLSEYE, CIRCA 1981
12X18, FULLY-INKED (FOR PAUL BLACKENED OUT ON BOTTOM) MOUNTED ON BLACK MATTE BOARD $75.00

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2 F/VF .. 1,207-35%
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8 VG/F ... 165-35%
11 VG 80-45%
12 VG- 70-45%
13 F+ 215-45%
14 F/VF .. 563-35%
15 VG+ .. 106-45%
16 VG- 58-55%
17 F 141-55%
17 VG- 82-55%
18 VF-... 201-55%
19 G/VG .. 45-55%
21 VF- 135-55%
23 F/VF .. 152-55%
24 VG/F ... 48-55%
25 VF+ ... 177-25%
26 F- 72-55%
28 F+ 127-55%
29 F/VF 71-55%
30 VG/F ... 38-55%
31 VF+ ... 111-25%
32 VG/F ... 38-55%
Thru 128 ..... Call
129 F/VF ... 60-35%
An1 F 150-35%
An2 F+ 97-45%
An3 VG+ ... 20-45%
Sp4 F 26-45%
GS4 F+ 23-45%

BATMAN
2 F 156-45%
11 F 55-45%
25 VF- 23-45%
93 VF- 28-45%

DAREDEVIL
16 VG/F ... 23-45%
17 VF- 51-45%
Sp1 VF- ... 14-45%

FANTASTIC FOUR
1 VG/F...1,875-25%
1 VF 104-25%
Golden Records
6 VG- 219-35%
7 VG 128-35%
8 VG- 112-35%
10 VG- .. 112-35%
11 VG 108-35%
17 F 87-45%
18 G- 27-45%
19 G 29-45%
20 VG 62-45%
24 VG/F ... 35-05%
25 VG 70-45%
28 VF/NM..190-15%
34 VF- 51-45%
35 VF- 51-45%
36 F+ 35-45%
38 VF- 51-45%
39 VG 18-45%
40 F- 25-45%
41 VF 39-45%
42 F 18-45%
43 G/VG 9-45%
44 VG/F ... 15-45%
48 F 213-35%
48 VG- .. 124-35%
Thru 98 ..... Call
An1 VG+ ... 97-25%
An2 VG+ ... 44-35%

INCREDIBLE HULK
3 VG 234-35%
4 F/VF 569-45%
6 VG- 277-35%
102 F- 41-45%
Sp1 F 21-45%

JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY
104 F/VF ... 38-35%
108 F 24-35%
An1 VG+ ... 35-45%

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1 VF 166-35%

SILVER SURFER
1 VG 78-45%
2 F 52-45%

STRANGE TALES
102 G/VG .. 44-35%
103 G/VG .. 36-35%
106 F 47-35%
107 G/VG .. 28-35%
108 VG/F .. 39-45%
112 VG/F .. 27-45%
113 VG 21-45%
114 F/VF .. 162-45%
114 G/VG...48-45%
115 VG 80-35%
116 F+ 39-45%
116 VG/F .. 25-35%
118 F+ 25-35%
An2 F 120-25%

TALES OF SUSPENSE
44 G 31-45%
47 VG/F ... 48-45%
58 VG 53-45%

TALES TO ASTONISH
37 G- 30-45%
49 VG+ 38-45%
49 G- 16-45%
57 VG/F ... 33-25%
57 G- 12-45%
58 VG+ 21-45%
60 F+ 66-45%
62 F+ 19-45%
93 VG/F ... 13-35%
100 VF- ... 28-45%
101 F/VF ... 29-45%

THOR
134 VG/F .. 14-45%
165 F 17-45%
169 VF+ ... 24-45%

X-MEN
2 F+ 576-25%
3 VF- 338-25%
35 VF/NM .. 91-25%
35 VG+ 25-35%
GS1 F/VF... 200-25%

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X-MEN #1 GOOD 350.00
X-MEN #1 RESTORED TO V.F. $400.00
ATOM #1 LIGHT REST TO NM- 250.
ALL-STAR WESTERN #10 V.F. 120.
TALES TO ASTONISH #27 ONE EDGE OF COVER TRIMMIED O/W V.G. $320.
STAR TREK #1 F+/VF- 200.
SHOWCASE #34 FINE- 250.00
SHOWCASE #34 FINE+ 300.00
SUPERBOY #1 FINE 1,800.
J.L.A. #1 REST TO VF FROM GOOD $400.00
SUPERMAN #8 G. 5IN SPINE SLPLIT O/W VG $230.
SUPERMAN #10 VG WHITE PAGES $400.
SUPERMAN #15 LOOKS FINE BUT COVER IS DETACHED, CALL IT GOOD $150.
SUPERMAN #100 VG/VG+ 240.
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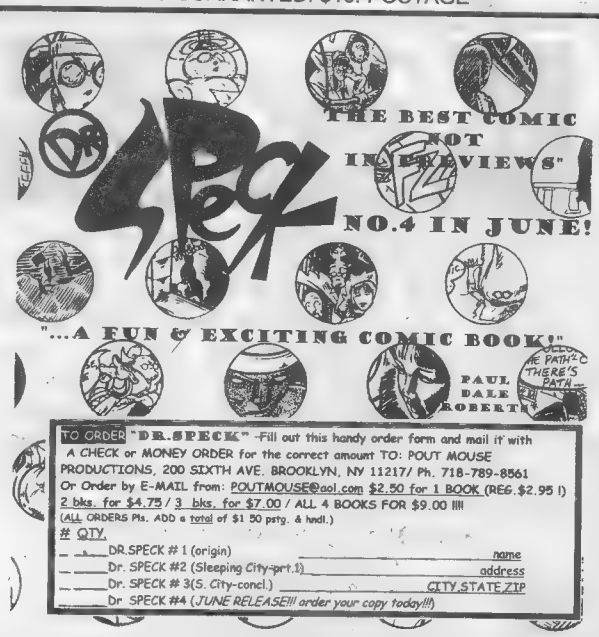
COMICS BUYER'S GUIDE
Advertising Department
700 E. State Street
Iola, WI 54990-0001

We'll reduce your ad to the proper size and place it in the issue(s) you request. If no specific issue(s) is requested, we'll run your ad in the next available issue.

Keep in mind that CBG does not typeset, screen photos, add logos, artwork or symbols to Trader ads. The better your ad looks when you send it to us, the better it will look when it is reduced and published in CBG.



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Or Order by E-MAIL from: POUTMOUSE@aol.com $2.50 for 1 BOOK (REG.$2.95 !)
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____Dr. SPECK #2 (Sleeping City-prt.1) _____ address
____Dr. SPECK # 3(S. City-concl.) _____ CITY,STATE,ZIP
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Aquaman
11 VG $16
18 G $8
19 F- $22
Atom
1 VG $124
2 VG $60
3 VG $38
4 F $45
5 F- $40
6 F $30
7 VG+ $57
8 VG $20
Brave & Bold
32 Fair $11
38 VG- $40
40 VG $30
42 G+ $31
45 F- $16
46 VG $12
47 F- $16
48 F- $16
49 VG $12

Brave & Bold
50 VG- $31
51 G $24
52 F $39
53 F- $19
54 F- $70
56 VG $9
57 VG $28
58 F $21
Justice League of America
1 G- $180
2 VG- $108
3 G $50
4 G+ $41
5 VG- $56
6 VG $54
7 VG- $49
8 VG $54
9 VG $67
10 VG- $49
11 VG- $33

Justice League of America
12 VG $37
13 Fair $9
14 VG $37
15 VG+ $41
16 VG+ $35
17 VG $32
18 VG $32
19 VG $32
20 VG $32
21 VG $62
26 VG+ $21
28 VG $19
42 VG+ $9
Rip Hunter
2 VG $43
3 VG $25
4 VG $25
5 VG $25
8 F- $19
9 VG $14

Rip Hunter
13 VG $14
18 F- $16
19 VG $12
20 VG $12
Showcase
31 VG $68
32 G $34
36 VG- $79
41 F- $43
42 F- $43
42 VG $32
43 VG $72
44 VG $22
45 VG+ $49
46 VG $18
47 G/VG $14
48 VG $14
49 VG $14
50 F- $19
51 VG $14
52 F $17
61 VG $26

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FEATURING ART BY THE LEGENDARY DICK AYERS!
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AMAZING SPIDERMAN..	# 4	VG/FINE	$ 250.
AMAZING SPIDERMAN..	# 5	GOOD	$ 95.
AMAZING SPIDERMAN..	# 6	FINE	$ 250.
AMAZING SPIDERMAN..	# 8	GOOD	$ 45.
AMAZING SPIDERMAN..	# 13	VERY GOOD	$ 75.
AMAZING SPIDERMAN..	# 14	GOOD	$ 95.
AMAZING SPIDERMAN..	# 14	VG/FINE	$ 250.
AVENGERS	# 4	FINE	$ 250.
AVENGERS	# 8, 9	FINE EACH	$ 35.
AVENGERS	# 11	FINE	$ 40.
AVENGERS	# 15	VERY FINE	$ 55.
CAPTAIN AMERICA	# 100	FINE	$ 75.
DAREDEVIL	# 1	VG	$ 195.
DAREDEVIL	# 4	FINE	$ 70.

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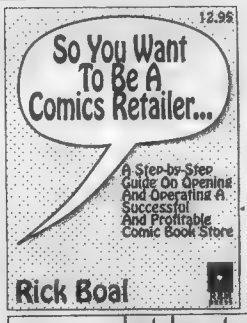
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A Step-by-Step Guide On Opening And Operating A Successful And Profitable Comic Book Store
Rick Boal

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Or send check/money order to: ~~$12.95~~ $6.50 ! x___ = ___
Rick Boal Marketing, PO Box 8445 $3.50 S&H x___ = ___
Huntington Beach, CA 92615 TOTAL = ___

Comic Books For Sale

Title	grade	myprice
Doll Man #37	vg-	$70 (first Doll Girl, water mark llc on cover)
Exciting Comics #36	vg	$90 (Schomburg Cover)
Exciting Comics #45	g+	$75 (Schomburg Robot Cover)
Justice Traps The Guilty #5	fn55	$65
Men's Adventures #4(1)	vg-	$48
Mystery Comics #1	vg37	$160(Schomburg Cover, detached centefold)
Startling #47	vg52	$150(Schomburg Headlight Cover)
Super Magician vol 4 #2	fn62	$35
Suspense #5	fn	$65
Thrilling Crime Cases#42	vg	$35
Thrilling Crime Cases#46	fn-	$46
Thrilling Crime Cases#47	vf78	$90
Tomb of Terror #2	vf80	$85
Tomb of Terror #6	vf86	$95
Web of Mystery #29	vg	$26
Western True Crime #16(2)	vg	$43

Ordering Information:
Send all inquiries to
Martin Davidson
6370 Kremmling Cr
Colorado Springs, CO 80919
or E-mail at mardav@clsp.uswest.net
call (719) 260-6144 between 8am and 8pm MST to reserve books. Postage is five dollars. I will accept a check or money order. Checks must clear before books are sent. Satisfaction guranteed. May return within 5 days of receiving if not totally satisfied.

Title	grade	guide	my price
Adventure #268	vg+	$24	$18
Adventures Into the Unknown #44	vg	$25	$17
Amazing Adult Fantasy #12	fn70	$130	$90 (two small chips right edge)
Apache Trail #2	vg	$11	$6
Batman #91	fn	$100	$75
Bouncer #11	fn60	$50	$45
Classic Ill #30 Moonstone	vf	$20	$12 (HRN 70)
Classic Ill #81 Odyssey	fn	$21	$13 (original)
Detective #361	vf	$26	$17
Don Winslow #13	g+	$16	$14
Fantastic Four #81	nm	$25	$20
Giant Size Super Heroes #1	vf	$26	$20
Green Lantern #10	fn-	$70	$60
Gunsmoke Western	vf	$23 50	$17
Incredible Hulk #104	fn +	$22	$17
Iron Fist #14	nm	$110	$80(first Sabertooth)
Jumbo #91	vf87	$115	$110(beautiful Book)
Rangers #36	vf77	$110	$85
Showcase #74	vf+	$65	$40
Star Spangled War Stories #17	fn68	$70	$45
Strange Adventures #190	fn+	$65	$35(first Animal Man in costume)
Superman's Girlfriend #12	vg+	$35	$20
Tales of the Unexpected #30	fn-	$40	$25
Wamb Jungle Boy #17	g	$9	$7(soiled)
World's Finest #111	vf80	$62	$42
X-men #5	vf75	$225	$155

Hot Dealer Special!

All 12 Sets Below Plus 21
Wizard #1/2s...Only $699!

Ascension #1-5 — GEN 13 #1-28 ongoing series
Curse of Spawn #1-11 — Kiss Psycho #1-6
Darkchylde #1-5 — Scarlet Crush #1 (out of 5)
Darkness #1-14 — SHI #1-12
Darkness #11 (10 comics) — Spawn #1-25
GEN 13 #1-5 mini series — Witchblade #1-22 (NOT 9)

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Arcanum	DV-8	SHI
Ash	Evil Ernie	Silver Surfer/Wild
Astro City	Fire From Heaven	Silver Surfer
Avengelyne	Heroes Reborn	Star Wars
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Darkchylde	Lady Death Crucible	Wolverine
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Shipping is extra
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Moebius, Arzach $7.00
3 x 3 eyes $13.00
Appleseed 1 $15 00
Blade of the Immortal, Blood of a thousand $13.00
Oh my Goddess, 1-555-Goddess $13.00
This Bastard Planet (signed) $9.00
White Man Dancing $10 00
Strange Kaddish $10.00
Nausicaa 6 $16.00
Domu 1 $6 00
Dominion Conflict 1 $15.00
Wolverine $13.00
Aquaman, Time & Tide $10.00
Iron man vs. Dr. Doom $13 00
Avengers X-men. Bloodties $16 00
Colosus, Gods Country $7.00
Impulse, Reckless Youth $15.00
Thrilling Planet Tales $10.00
Golden Age Greats 8 $10 00
Femforce, Sisters in Sin $13.00
Invisible People $10.00
But I Digress $15.00
Spider-Man, Invasion of the Spider Slayers $16.00
Spider-Man vs. Green Goblin $16.00
Spider-Man, Round Robin $16 00
Spider-Man, Lost Years $10.00
Deadly Foes of Spider-Man $13.00
Brooklyn Dreams 1-3 $5.00
Family Man 3 $5.00

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Cowboy Love 7 Fbut lg pc out back cover 10
10 VG, sm pc off BRHC 6
11 F 8
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Gene Autry 43 G, logo missing from f/cover 3
Heroic Comics 88 G, sm pcs msg off spine 3
Hollywood Confessions 1 VG, some spine wear, 1" ink letter on cover. Cover and all story art by Joe Kubert 20
Lady Luck 87 Fair, sm pcs off at spine, sm pc off BRHC, 1 vert & 1 horiz crease, some minor soiling on front cover 20
Looney Tunes 16 Fair, somebody fastened whole book with thread at top & bot spine but original staples still there 20
Marvel Family 51 G, some soiling and wear at spine, rusty staples 10
Molly O'Day super sleuth 1 G, name in crayon across cover, about 1 ½" X 1 ½" pc msg from right edge **First Avon comic! A must for Avon collectors. Believe me, scarce.** When did you last see it? $25
Pat Boone 4 Fair, minor scuffing on cov, minor spine wear, J Mathis/B Darin p/c 20
Strange Adventures 83 Fair, tape on spine 5
Super Duck 40 Fair, long tear on cover 5
True Comics 64 G, sub label, pencil name 3
War Against Crime 8 (EC) fair-, rolled sp, tape on sp, sm pcs msg URHC/BRHC $20

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Vintage ads from great artists/illustrators Lot of 5 different (one **with art by Alberto Vargas, Covarrubias, Dohanos, Petty** $10
Al Capp's Little Abner comic-strip magazine ads for Cream Of Wheat Great story/art in the Capp style Lot 6 diff, 1940's $20
Females by Cole from Playboy magazine 36 cocktail napkins In original box. Copyright 1956. 36 different "female" cartoons by great comic book artist Jack Cole, who at that time was doing Cartoons for Playboy VF- Exc cond, no tears on box, water stain at bottom of box. Great collectible item, scarce in this cond $20
Terry and the Pirates/and the Mystery Ship. A Dell Fast-Action Book, copyright 1938 (BLB style, harder to find) VF cond, some Pages neatly colored $20
Collier's Magazine, May 7, 1932 Cover features Sax Rohmer's The Mask of Fu Manchu Impressive large full-size, full-color Cover illustration by W T Benda, inside illustrations by John Richard Flanagan Also included: May 28, 1932 issue (Part IV, Mask of Fu Manchu) and June 24, 1933 issue (Fu Manchu's Bride, part VIII) Lot of 3 diff Collier's, complete, only $30
Army Laughs vol 3 no 7 (Oct 1943). Cartoon digest mag, Many cartoons by Henry Boltnoff and others. VF-NM $5
Private Benny Bungle, (Phil Miller Publications, 1943) 128-pg Cartoon digest magazine, Hard to find, VF NM $5
Private Breger. His Adventures in an Army Camp. By Dave Breger, Rand McNally & Co, 1942. Spiral-bound, missing Front cover, water stains. Collection of cartoon panels, some From the Saturday Evening Post Scarce. As is $15
Menomonee Falls Guardian Special 1-3 (Alley Oop strips, 1973-74) NM All three $10

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4011 ARTISTS WANTED

GIANT CATALOG #13 is shipping this June. Send $1 or (4) 32¢ stamps to receive. Fanzines, film books, men's mags, video, etc. Queen City Bookstore, 3184 Main St, Buffalo, NY 14214.

PENCILERS, INKERS needed for 10,000 bi-monthly estabilished. Send xerox continuity only, no pin-ups. Foss, HCR 3, Box 40, Birchtree, MO 65438.

PENCILERS, INKERS get published, 10,000 bi-mo mag est 6 years, scripts ready. Send continuity, Xerox (no pinups) SASE. Foss, HCR 3 Box 40, Birch Tree, MO 65438.

4015 DISTRIBUTORS

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(608) 836-6910
Authorized Distributor for
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MAGIC The Gathering™ Discounts On Cases Call For Retailer Pricing

4041 WRITERS WANTED

ARE YOU a professional writer? Interested in collaborating on an offbeat vampire story? Then write to: Will Day, PO Box 131, Eddington, ME 04428.

4050 SMALL PRESS FOR SALE

JET BLACK #1. Martial Arts comic for sale through Monolith Comics. Send $2.50 each postpaid to: PO Box 425, Tranquility, NJ 07879. For information: 908-852-6741.

ENERGONS - KICK alien butt. #49 only 50¢ plus stamp. Sherman Burnett, 210 Wayne St., Monticello, KY 42633. Advance order #50. Only $2 ppd.

HELP MARSHALL in Kansas Thunder #4. Send two bucks to: Red Menace Comics, 222 Route 9W, Suite 1255, Haverstraw, NY 10927.

4050 SMALL PRESS FOR SALE

HOT SCI-FI! Order the Eden Descendants mini-series, 3 issues, 128 pages, for $10! (includes S&H). Quester Entertainment, PO Box 1374, Lake Stevens, WA 98258. www.premier1.net/~quester

FUNNY BOOKS #4, 1,000 laughs guaranteed or quintuple your money back. (Some restrictions apply). $2. Robert Loy, 4808 Bridle Path, North Charleston, SC 29420.

THE INDESTRUCTIBLE Man by Kaso comics is on sale now, watch for this exciting title available thru Diamond, Syco or Kaso Comics, POB 381, Hicksville, NY 11802-0381

SYNWULFE: BOUNTY Hunter. Six issue science fiction series coming in July from Hieorgraphics. P.O. Box 35932, Tucson, AZ 85740-5923. dmmcmx@aol.com

1998 EDITION! All new! United Fanzine Organization All Comics Annual over 56 pages, 13 creators! $3 ppd. Bob Elinskas, 1805 Girard St., Utica, NY 13501.

VESPER #1 32 pgs. color cover won't hit stands 'til September! $2 ppd. All CBG ads get 16 pg. Ashcan trading cards! Acetylene Comics, 9 Appleton #400, Boston, MA 02116.

TONY ISABELLA likes us! All-hero adventures, six issues published, $2 ea., all for $10. Postpaid! Sam Kujava, 1157 S. Fisk, Green Bay, WI 54304.

MINSTREL FAIR: Something different in fantasy comics. The Small Press Express! The independents adzine. SASE for info: Dreamlight Graphics, PO Box 1263, Champaign, IL 61824-1263.

SPACE PILOT comic: Gary Scott's amazing astro-adventures! Realistic style, magazine size. 25 cents for #1, 2. Jesse Landrum, 3822 Halley Terr. SE, Washington, DC 20032.

SMALL PRESS - The Next Generation! Meet the stars of tomorrow in SPCE every month! Corrigan, POB 25, Houghton, NY 14744.

4051 SMALL PRESS WANTED

ANTHROPOMORPHIC COMICS needed. Writing article on animal comics. Any and all information is appreciated. Jason Nelson, P.O. Box 3176, Norman, OK 73070-3176.

ARTISTS WANTED for adult and Slice of Life comic. Send samples to: D.E.A.R. Publishing, 4691 Commercial Drive #359, New Hartford, NY 13413.

4101 ARCHIE, WANTED

BETTY AND Veronica Digest number one wanted. Send price to: De Fina, P.O. Box 172541, Hialeah, FL 33017-2541. Also seeking Archies Madhouse Number 22. Thanks.

4110 BLACK & WHITE, FOR SALE

AREA 88 1-42 (full run)! available. $20 P&H included. Fighter Pilot Manga! V12 comics. Robert Zailo, 1363 Chaffey Ct., Ontario, CA 91762. 909-981-1477.

4111 BLACK & WHITE, WANTED

BIG BANG Comics from Caliber wanted. Need complete five issue mini series. Offering $15 including postage. Howard Michaels Jr., 706 North Cottage, Mercer, PA 16137-9319.

4120 CLASSIC, FOR SALE

SPECTACULAR CLASSICS list free. Over 5,000 Classics listed from $1 up, hundreds $5 or less. All originals listed. Over 99% of all editions. Classic Comics Library, P.O. Box 784, Libertyville, IL 60048-0784.

CLASSICS ILLUSTRATED: Originals, reprints, juniors, puzzles, records, accurate grading, competitive prices. Send $1 for catalog. Bill Novick, 1708 Forest Hill Ave., South Milwaukee, WI 53172.

CLASSICS ORIGINALS 50 up. Many Fine or better. Priced Overstreet 1998 lower prices. Inquire. Donald Whyte, 46 Greenwood Place, Buffalo, NY 14213. 716-882-2875.

PENDULUM PRESS b-w classics adaptations done for reading classes. Various Philippine artist. Rarely offered. Write for details. John Pierce, 328 Powhatan Avenue, Columbus, OH 43204-1965.

4121 CLASSIC, WANTED

WANTED: CC #4, HRN 12 or 15, VGF/FN, $40-$50 price range. Front cover must be sharp. Tom Callahan, 328 Beach Ave., Staten Island, NY 10306. 212-637-6537.

4122 COMIC COLLECTIONS FOR SALE

UNCLE SCROOGE 53-161, Turok 39-124, Dennis/ Menace 19-156, Dennis/ Giants 1-75, Boris Karloff T.O.M. 6-95, G-NM 50% guide. SASEAR. More. Wally, Box 76, Waynesburg, OH 44688.

4122 COMIC COLLECTIONS FOR SALE

FREE COMIC when you request our price list of 1,800 different #1s, 0s, and annuals. For Your Collection, 928 W Norton, Ste. 441BG, Muskegon, MI 49441.

MY BEST! Platinum, gold, silver, copper, modern. Send SASE for one age, 2 stamps all. Ed, 5523 Cynthia Dr., Roanoke, VA 24018. edwoodard@juno.com

$100,000 OVERSTREET value $10,000! $10,000 value $1,500! Both deals heavy on good sellers. Friendly Frank's Comic Cavern, 5404 NW 64th St,, Kansas City, MO 64151. Phone/Fax 816-746-4569.

HUGE COLLECTION of Pulps, DC, Marvel and Classic illustrated, free catalog, send 9x12 SASE, 68¢ postage to: Mike Jay, 4213 Iriona, Austin, TX 78749.

SGT. FURY set #1 thru $88, #92 thru #97, Annuals #1 thru #6, all VG or better, $1,000. Jim 304-845-0238 for details.

3,000 MARVEL/DC Comics for sale. 1960's thru 80's. Best offer. Please call 212-532-5715.

60 LONG boxes of comics for sale. Collection includes Marvel, DC, Image, Dark Horse and others from the late 70's early 80's to current comics in it. Also includes toys and trading cards. Asking $5,000 OBO. 209-957-4056.

55,000+ COMICS. Many at wholesale. B&B #28, Daredevil #1, Green Lantern #3 up, ASM #1. Jason Lehto, 14303 NE 81st St., Vancouver, WA 98682. 360-604-0705. Email: jwlehto@aol.com

COMICS: SILVER Age on up and related items for sale. Lots of collector's items. Send LSASE. Kim Klein, 6027 Little Brook Court, Clifton, VA 20124.

COMIC COLLECTION valued at $130,000 about 32,000 books from 60s to present. Contact: Dave at D&D Comics, P.O. Box 181, Saugerties, NY 12477. E-mail: dndcomic@aol.com

COLLECTION FOR Sale. Marvels, DC, Indies 1963. Please send wants. comicsale@aol.com Rob Reich, 2010 Swan Pointe, DePere, WI 54115.

4123 COMIC COLLECTIONS WANTED

$350,000 SEARCH for quality comic book collections!! Buying most everything from 1933-1972. Serious buyer. Rick Semowich, 56 John Smith Road, Binghamton, NY 13901. 607-648-4025.

WORLDS FAIR 1939. Need copy with missing inside pages! Michael Dice, 309 S. Washington St., Cortez, CO 81321. 970-564-9018, evenings.

WANTED: COMIC collections made before 1958. None are to small or large! Michael Dice (cbg) 309 South Washington,Cortez CO. 81321. Phone evenings: 970 564-9018. Email: oldcomix@fone.net.

PHILADELPHIA AREA dealer looking for vintage comic book and BB card collections. Give a fair price and I'll buy! 215-947-3498.

MICRONAUTS! MICRONAUTS! Toys wanted. Boxed or loose. Check your attics and basements. Cash paid! Thanks. Michael Bray, 615-367-1405 or Email: brays3@aol.com

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Comic book collections, pre-1965's, bound volumes, pulps, radio premiums & original art wanted!
Call toll free
(888) 355-9800
or contact John Snyder at Diamond International Galleries:
1966 Greenspring Drive, Timonium, MD 21093.
Before you sell, call me!

4128 DARK HORSE FOR SALE/ WANTED

X MANY issues needed. Swap for or buy cheap. Andrew Vachess' hard looks #2 and #4 need. Dan Lyon, PO Box 152, Franklin, NJ 07416.

4130 DC, FOR SALE

FAMOUS FIRST Editions C-26 nice VG+ $4.50, C-28 solid VG $7, nicer FN-$9.75. F-5 (Batman #1) VG/VG+ $5.75. Strictly graded. $3 shipping. Bob 804-360-3483.

ONLINE INVENTORY: http://www.thatse.com. Comics, art, sports autographs, toys. Browse our database. 1997 Eisner winner, New England's largest- That's Entertainment, 244 Park Avenue, Worcester, MA 01609. 508-755-4207.

SUPERMAN RARE 1942 Lowther hardback novel. DJ G/VG (looks better). Book VG/F, great display piece. $650 or make offer. 301-603-0246.

DC 100 pagers, Silver Age DC, key issues, and more. Trade for Brave/ Bold #28, #30, JLA #1 in VF or better. Mark 210-564-0034.

JONAH HEX! Weird Western Tales, Hex & ASW! Giant list, multiple copies available. Send 2 32¢ stamps for list. Bill Nereson, 8064 James Ave. N., Brooklyn Park, MN 55444.

$1 EACH: Batman 434-499; Detective 601-651; Flash 22-49. Rob Hughes, 444 Hampshire Rd., Drexel Hill, PA 19026.

DC COMICS for sale below Guide. E-mail: tokengreg@aol.com DC Comics.

DETECTIVE 356, 357, 360, 361, 364, VF/NM, 365 VF+, $19 ea., 358 VF+ $17. Add $4. Barry Eller, 309 South Rowan Avenue, Spencer, NC 28159.

LOW PRICES on thousands of DC's, 60's to recent. Superman, Batman, Wonder Woman, Flash, etc. Free list. Nick, 10387 Friars, #109, San Diego, CA 92120.

WEIRD WAR Tales! Giant list, multiple copies, strict grading, fair pricing. Send 2 32¢ stamps for list. Bill Nereson, 8064 James Ave. N., Brooklyn Park, MN 55444.

CAPTAIN ACTION in NM #1 $40, #2, #3, #5, $30 each, #4 $20. Please enclose SAE. Rob Griffith, 3456 Dixiana Drive, Lexington, KY 40517.

GREEN LANTERN- 61, 90-224, Annual 1-3, Special 1, 2. All NM to M. Guide price $436, my price $250. DC Comics Presents- 1-97, Annual 1-4. All NM to M. Guide price $376, my price $150. Contact Al Cross 515-986-9656 or email: al.cross@rainhail.com

DC SILVER Age lot, includes Atom 1 G+, Flush 129 VG, JLA 12, 21 G/VG, 27 different comics avg. G/VG, '98, Overstreet over $320, only $150 ppd. 503-598-9140. P. Herstedt, PO Box 230741, Tigard, OR 97281.

SHADOW 1, 2, 3. Shazam 1, 2, 3. Secret Origins (1973) 1. Howard The Duck 1, 2, 3. All NM/M. $25 postpaid. Guaranteed. Ortego 504-261-8619.

JLA CHEAP! Did you miss the boat? Buy mine below cover price, #8 thru #19 all 12 comics $20 postpaid. Bruce Meservey, 21 Clement, Worcester, MA 01603.

GIANT SUPERMAN Annuals #2, 3, 7. 1960, 1961, 1963 "Fine." $200 for all. Jim Burke, 61 Parker St., Freehold, NJ 07728.

BRAVE BOLD #38 Good $15, Scooter #4 VG $8, Scooter #7 VG $8. Please include $3 postage. Bob Ranken, 25012 Wiley Cyn. Rd., Newhall, CA 91321.

SOVEREIGN SEVEN 1-36 Ann. 1 $40, Animal Man 1-34 $30, Blue Devil 1-16 $10. All NM. Shipping $3. Rob Abrams, 281 Fox Hill, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089.

PREACHER #8, 9, 10, $7 each. Babylon 5 #1 and 2, $5 each. Weird War Tales/ Vertigo #'s 1-4, Dreaming #'s 1-8, best offer. Phil Gelato, 3333 S. Wallace, Chicago, IL 60616.

ALL NM Wonder Woman (2nd series) #5-20 $1 ea., #21-35, 37, 56, 57, 61-63, 69 $1.25 ea. Mark, 715-824-3359. Leave message.

ANIMAL MAN #1-38 NM $50 ppd., Catwoman #1-18 NM $39, Green Arrow #1-30 NM $45, Wally Stoelting, 5824 Winamac Lake Dr., 2-A, Mishawaka, IN 46545.

SWAMP THING Vol.1 7 VG $6, 8-11 F $7 each. Postage included. Contact Jason Scroggs, 345 Walnut Cir., Bolingbrook, IL 60440 or E-mail jasance@aol.com

HERCULES UNBOUND 1-12 VF avg. $36, Weird War 2 VF+ BC water stain, $10. John Egan, 355 Gambier, San Francisco, CA 94134. 415-334-5553.

DETECTIVE #241 FN+ $68, Our Army at War $63 VG $15, #67 FN+ $32, #75 FN $20, Our Fighting Forces #36 FN $17. Jim 408-867-9485.

SUPERMAN AND Batman annuals, both No. 7, both 80 pages, complete with scuzzy covers, $7 each postpaid. 732-269-1025 to order.

BATMAN 79 VG $65, 91 VG $55, Detective 218 VG+ $50, 221 VG+ $50, Superman 95 VG $50, Action 186 VG $48, World's Finest 76 VG $39. Joe 607-796-2547. jrhillerin@aol.com

BRAVE AND Bold 65 VF+ $17, 66 F/VF $11, 67 VF+ $32, 68 NM- $58, $4 P&H. Merle Covell, 510 Union St., Lot #22, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547. 850-864-4051.

4130 DC, FOR SALE

JONAN HEX #2 F/VF $4, #3 $6, #4 F/VF $4, #5 $6, $3 postage. SASE for full list. Tom Hegeman, 35 Church, Oneonta, NY 13820.

BATMAN #43 Fine $195, #79 VG/Fn $89, Showcase #9 G/VG $595, Adventure #247 VG $395, #267 VG $75, #253 Fn #$49. Kurt 209-825-0479.

FLASH 123 Fn/VF first Golden Age Flash, Earth II, great page color, crisp, Guide $525, selling for $295, Wonder Woman #14 Fn/VF very nice $295. 315-676-5931.

BATMAN #155 VF+ $175, Superman #199 VG+ $35, Sgt. Bilko #1 VG $100. Trades welcome. Postage $3. John Hollop, 137 Lancaster, Albany, NY 12210.

STARMAN 01-28, ANN.1 $40, Phantom Stranger 31NM $10, 32,35 NM $6@ 36VF+ $4, 41VF $6 complete Miller Batman HB $20. Richard Byard, 213-463-1948.

WEIRD WAR #1, Jonah Hex, Digests, 100 pagers, Treasury editions, Mystery/ Horror titles. Thingvall, 1670 Laurel #2, St. Paul, MN 55104.

LOIS LANE 70 F- $45; Jimmy Olsen 87 VF- $14.50; Tale of the Unexpected 18 g-, 52, 53 g+ $10.50. Satisfaction guaranteed. Doug Albacete, 707-448-3101.

JUSTICE LEAGUE 198 to 206, 221 to 230, 236 to 252, 193 $1 each. Postage $2. Eagle Collectibles, 3338 Appel Rd., Bethel Park, PA 15102. 412-831-3989.

LOIS LANE #6 in good condition. $25 ppd or will trade for Lois Lane #8. Darren Margolis, 926 St Paul St., Baltimore, MD 21202. 410-539-5855.

SANDMAN AND other hardcover, TPB's, half cover price. Send SASE for list. Littleworks, P.O. Box 109, Ocean View, NJ 08230.

4131 DC, WANTED

SUPERBOY #68 (10/11/58). Unrestored, strict VF or better wanted. Send details, asking price. Fax 718-646-0211. Write: Bill Yawien, 2625 Emmons Ave. #3-B, Brooklyn, NY 11235.

LOOKING FOR Aquaman #37, and #39 in strict NM condition. Willie Costello, 176 Park Lane, Trumbull, CT 06611. 203-268-1025 or fax 203-268-1047.

SUPER DC Giant #21 (Love 1971). Will pay $100 for a Fine copy and $180 for a VF. CBA Ad, P.O. Box 102, Wantagh, NY 11793.

DC 100 pagers, specials, Giants wanted. Also Marvel horror reprints from the 1970s. Rich Clabaugh, 119 W. Spruce St., Milford, MA 01757.

BATMAN #222 wanted in G to VG shape. (multiple copies). Rick Rann, PO Box 877, Oak Park, IL 60303.

FOX AND Crow 1, 10, 19, 27, 41, 48, 68, 98. Peter Porkchop 11, 40. Real Screen Comics 109. Criner, 2417 Edgewood, Enid, OK 73703.

COVERS WANTED. Action #109, 131, 211, 226, 238. Adventure #200, 208, 220, 234, 239, 250. Randy Gipson, 5743 Jeremy Lane, Flagstaff AZ 86004. Email: rgipson25@aol.com

DESPERATELY SEEKING Hellblazer #27 and Kirby's New Gods #1, especially interested in signed copies. E-Mail condition and price(s) to: bonhas@aol.com Thanks.

WEIRD MYSTERY Tales #4, House of Secrets #106. Jeff Mirrione, PO Box 2212, Hollister, CA 95024-2212.

DON'T WANT 1990 Bugs Bunny! Desperately seeking 93-94 DC Bugs Bunny 1-2. Paying 5X's OPG! G-NM. Belinda, P.O. Box 1744, Choctaw, OK 73020. 405-390-3037.

CHEAP DETECTIVE Comics wanted. #408-411, 425-427, 432-434, 450-460, 462-483, 488-597, 656-662, 681. Also Secret Origins 7-26. L. FLorio, 157 E. Church St., Bergenfield, NJ 07621-1831.

THRILL KILLER #3 of 3 sought. Buy or trade for. Lyon, P.O. Box 152, Franklin, NJ 07416.

LOOKING FOR anything and everything Green Lantern! Contact: Tim Dreher, 668 E. Bischeld, Grand Island, NE 68801.

DC SILVER age collections wanted, other publishers as well. All grades. Call Jerry 212-302-8192. Fax 212-302-4775.

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14303 NE 81st Street - Vancouver, WA 98682

4140 DELL/GOLD KEY/WHITMAN FOR SALE

LITTLE LULU 23 VF, 30 VF @ $50, 33 VF; 38 VF @ $42, 34 F, 37 F, 40 F, 43 F, 44 F, 46 F @ $20. D. Puff, 500 Walton Dr., Cheektowaga, NY 14225. 716-834-0996.

DELL WAR air war stories combat jungle war stories world war stories. Carlos Sanchez, 2127 Genevieve, San Bernardino, CA 92405-4003. 909-882-6835.

4141 DELL/GOLD KEY/WHITMAN WANTED

LARGE FEATURE comics, 1st and 2nd series. 4 color comics #7, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 26, 27, 31. Dave Brauhn, 319-848-5231.

FEATURE BOOK 24, Lone Ranger 4 color 82, Lone Ranger in VG. Dave Brauhn, 416 Waterbury, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402. brauhn.david@mccleodusa.net

MAGNUS ROBOT Fighter #1-12, 24-28, Mighty Samson #1-11, Space Family Robinson #1-7 VF or better. David Rauchwarter, 266 Juniper Ave., Redwing, MN 55066. 612-388-4100. drauchw@pressenter.com

MAGNUS ROBOT fighter #1,6,24,25,26,28. Space family Robinson #1-7, Mighty Samson #1-11 VF or better. David Rauchwarter, 266 Juniper Ave, Red Wing, MN 55066. 612-388-4100. drauchw@pressenter.com

TUROK MARCH of comics 378. Will accept any grade or color copies. Name your price! Dan Lewonczyk, 29 Markwood Ln, Manchester, CT 06040. 860-643-0453.

4150 DISNEY, FOR SALE

Beauty and the Beast video LD boxed set, $150. Please write for details. Steven Ng, 4966 Hyde Park Dr., Fremont CA 94538. stevenang@juno.com

DISNEY'S "NEW Tales From Old Mother Goose" comic strips (from Good Housekeeping); 10 diff. 1943-44 $35 ppd. Special! Paperman, 94 Berkeley Place, Bridgeport, CT 06610.

WDC+S #34, #47, #48, #50, #54, #60, grades avg. VG-G $80 lot firm, S&H $4. All backs issues. Brian 203-378-0316.

4151 DISNEY, WANTED

CARL BARKS: Original Carl Barks artwork wanted. Info to: Andrew Leong, 401 Broadway, Ste. 1800, New York City, NY 10013. Tel. 212-343-1881. Fax 212-343-2882.

WALT DISNEY autographs wanted. Cash or trade any comics. Also want W.D.C.&S. 1-20. I'll make it worth your while. Dave 619-465-3090. San Diego references.

4160 EC, FOR SALE

MAD 25-105, original owner, best offer. 530-662-5306, call a.m., PDT.

EC SETS, Ann.'s, in stock. Statues, books, comics, T-shirts, toys, new comics, back issues, horror. Subscriptions, mail order, supplies. Empire Comics ® 716-663-6877.

MAD #5 GD-$80, #9 VG $100, #24 First mag. FN $250. Vince 616-668-4056 5:30-8pm EST or weekends until 8:30pm.

COVERLESS $10 each: #s? Mad, Weird Science, Animal Fables, Fat and Slat, Land of Lost, Dandy International Comics, 2 diff. all 8 books $70. Ernie 603-447-5701.

MAD!!! 206 VG $2; Mad (Series I Limerock, 55 card set) $4; Humbug #8 Gd (tape) $8, #9 VG $15. Free catalog. More! Richard 916-568-7711.

4161 EC, WANTED

E.C. COVER sets. Collected mini poster reprints of front covers of classic series. Looking For Wierd Science, Wierd Fantasy, Incredible Science Fiction & Tales From The Crypt. Frank 603-890-5320.

4171 FAWCETT, WANTED

CAPT. MARVEL Adv., Capt. Marvel Jr., Gene Autry, Mary Marvel, Wow, Marvel Family, Whiz, Detective, Batman, Superman. William Giles, Box 271, Keithville, LA 71047. 318-925-6654.

4180 FOREIGN, FOR SALE

BRITISH COMICS for sale: 2,000AD, Eagle, Starlord, Capt. Britain, Hulk, Tarzan, etc. Send SASE for list to: Larry's Comic Book Store, 1219 W. Devon Ave, Chicago, IL 60660.

ERE COMPRIMEE French science fiction magazine No.1, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 37, 42 artwork Severin, Fernandez, Larsen, Ortiz, $5 ea. plus postage. Manny Sternschein, 711 Shore Rd., Long Beach, NY 11561.

PULPS NO. 4 Artwork Jones Finlay, Wood, French, Phobos No. artwork Russell, Barrey, Smith, French. $10 ea. plus postage. Manny Sternschein, 711 Shore Rd., Long Beach, NY 11561. 516-432-3442.

4181 FOREIGN, WANTED

CODY STARBUCK album by Chaykin, Fenici with Chaykin cover (reviewed by Isabella last summer). Tim Barnes, 103, Tredworth Road, Gloucester, GL1 4QU, England.

4190 HARVEY, FOR SALE

50% OFF! Casper, Richie Rich, Billions, Cash Diamonds, Gem, Millions, Plus, Spooky, Sad Sack and lots more! Large SASE. Ed, 26181 Laurel, Wauconda, IL 60084.

4190 HARVEY, FOR SALE

JOE PALOOKA #15 edge trimmed N/Fine $15, Jigsaw #2 N/Mint $5, Fighting American #1 V/Fine $15. 606-283-2356. Jack Cason, 9 Lakeshore Dr., Florence, KY 41042.

4201 HUMOR/FUNNY ANIMALS, WANTED

COMIC CAVALCADE #63, Leading Screen 42, Real Screen 84, Jingle Jangle 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 16. Charles Lawrence, Box 27, Falkland, NC 27827.

NEED CASH? Collector buying Dennis the Menace #1-50 in VG or better. Call or Fax lists to: 304-527-0404.

USAGI YOJIMBO back issues wanted. Greg Davis, 1418 North 725 West, West Bountiful, UT 84087.

4204 IMAGE FOR SALE/ WANTED

DANGER GIRL #1 (chromium cover) wanted also photos of the new Princess Natalie Portman. List to Alfred Nuete, 2220 S. Barcelona St., Spring Valley CA 91977.

4210 MARVEL/TIMELY, FOR SALE

MARVEL AND DC Presents #1 (X-Men/New Teen Titans) NM $5.50. Please add $1.50 for postage. Joseph Pormigiano, 74-56 260th St., Glen Oaks, NY 11004-1123.

$1 EACH: Spider-Man 3-40, Web 62-104, Amazing 366-384. Rob Hughes, 444 Hampshire Rd., Drexel Hill, PA 19026.

HULK 1-6 price negotiable, call for grading, Larry Dean 315-253-4197.

INVADERS (MARVEL) #1 VG, $3 plus postage. Marvel family #78 fair, $5 plus postage. Call Keith at 606-356-0087 if interested.

ASTONISHING TALES 4-7 avg. VG (Ward, Smith), only $12 ppd. Amazing Spider-Man 58 VFN $25 ppd. + free ASM 32, 36, 37, 40 coverless. 503-598-9140. P. Herstedt, PO Box 230741, Tigard, OR 97281.

CONAN #1 VF autographed Smith & Thomas $120, #2 VF $45, Giant-Sized X-Men #1 $350, Daredevil #8 VG $25, Peter Parker #1 NM $20. John Caputo, 62-10 80th St., Middle Village, NY 11379.

DEFENDERS 1 $58, Marvel Team-Up 1 $70, Marvel Feature 1 $65. All unread newsstand mint. 414-744-4912. Greg Krolikowski, 406 W. Bottsford Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53207.

SPIDER-WOMAN 36 to 38, 48 to 50, Thor 337 to 373, mint $1 each, postage $2. Eagle Collectibles, 3338 Appel, Bethel Park, PA 15102. 412-831-3989.

25 DR. Strange $10, 25 Cloak and Dagger $10, 25 Ghost Rider $10, 25 Conan $10 ppd. Todd Franks, 5284 SR 50, Webster, FL 33597.

MARVEL TEAM-UP 23 VG/F $3, Avengers 28 F $15. Prices include postage. Contact Jason Scroggs, 345 Walnut Cir., Bolingbrook, IL 60440 or e-mail jasance@aol.com

MARVEL MASTERWORKS book covers. Made to fit Masterworks or DC Archives. Clear plastic keeps dust covers NM 6 for $10 ppd. Chris McCollum, 6781 Marietta, Garden Grove, CA 92845.

MICRONAUTS 13-59, Annual 1, 2 @ $1, Vol. 2, 1-6, 10, 16 @ 50¢. All NM-M. Postage $2. Jamme Coy, 500 Virginia, Ashland, VA 23005.

CLANDESTINE SET issues 1 thru 12 VF condition, $10 ppd. Cool maxi-series! DJ Toftum, 5601 69th Ave. Apt. 312, Brooklyn Park, MN 55429.

X-MEN AND Avengers uncut hologram sheet. Super high quality hologram on a clear 11"x15" sheet. Four uncut holograms, never seen another one, only $50. 617-723-8310.

MARVEL GODZILLA 1 $6 mint! International sales, I ship everywhere! Silver to present. Free 30-90% discount catalogues. 844 Tittabaswassee, Saginaw, MI 48604. 517-752-7578. http://www.users.enc-1.co m/backissu/index.htm

IRONMAN #100 thru 248 grades F to NM/M. All for only $225. Mitch 281-444-6293.

SUPERMAN VS. Spider-Man Treasury Edition, 9 NM-Mint copies, beautiful condition, $125 ppd. for all. David Friedlander, 305 Gerrie Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15241. 724-941-4355.

4211 MARVEL/TIMELY, WANTED

TRADING: NEED ASM under #250. Have ASM over #200 and misc. 1990s comics. Kevin Sandmeyer, 1519 West Phila. St, York, PA 17404.

G.I. JOE comics wanted. #1 $3, #2 $5, #3-#10 $1 ea. #11-#26 50¢ ea. #27 up 25¢ ea. First prints. NM only. Tom Kalb 602-962-5751 Mon.-Sat. 11-7.

BUYING MARVEL Masterworks #13, #16, #17, #18 $50; #6, #21 $40. Also buying all others! Atlas, PO Box 25095, Overland Park, KS 66225. 913-345-1069. cdj1@atlascomics.com

MARVEL TALES (1964) wanted in any condition. Also other Marvel reprint comics from the 70's. Ken Kooistra, 338 Jefferson Ct., Trappe, PA 19426.

JUSTICE COMICS #10 wanted on this 1949 Marvel/ Atlas crime comic book. Monte Foulks, 1505 Beverly Rd., Philadelphia, PA 19138-1614.

4211 MARVEL/TIMELY, WANTED

HAVE YOU seen these Marvels? Hmer the Happy Ghost V.2 #5, Mad About Millie 17. Overstreet lists them, I've never seen them! Ken 307-637-8060. kenottjr@aol.com

4215 PLATINUM AGE FOR SALE

BUSTER BROWN and his Resolutions 1903, rare strokes, first nationally distributed comic. One of best surviving copies, covers VG+, interior VF. Richard 413-477-6971.

4220 SCIENCE FICTION/HORROR FOR SALE

WEIRD FANTASY (EC): All FN. #6 $74, #13 $61, #17 $91, others. Money order. Information, write (no calls). R.B. Bowden, 1907 Texas, Rantoul, KS 66079-9037.

FORBIDDEN WORLDS 4 VG+ FN- $75, Marvel Tales 130 VG- G+ $45, Astonishing 10 G $25, 3 G $160, 35 VG $28. Fred 201-864-2252.

WEB OF Mystery 1 Gd/VG $60, #5 VG/FN $48, #7 Gd $19, #27 Gd/VG $24, Witch Tales #23 Fn $45, #24 Fn $45, #26 VG $22, Suspense #1 Fn (49) $140. 315-676-5931.

PICARD TAPESTRY figure! Mint on card! Don't miss out on buying this collectors piece. Only 1701 made! $500. Rey Caban 718-382-5460. Call now!

WEIRD TERROR #7 VG $70 Eerie #4 VG/F $100 Strange Terrors +2 F-$65 Out of the Night +3 VG+ $40. Scott 214-348-7791.

AMAZING DETECTIVE #11 VG $30 Chamber of Chills +21 F/VF $60 #17 F $50 #18 F $50 Astonishing #11 VG $38. Scott 214-348-7791.

4221 SCIENCE FICTION/HORROR WANTED

WANTED: HORROR Books, comics, toys, cards, models, monster in my pocket, have lots to trade. Thanks. Pat Nolan, 11204 Kentucky Ave. N., Champlin, MN 55316. rachnol@usa.net

WANTED VG/VF Uncanny Tales #17, Chilling Tales #16, Mr. Mystery #6. Contact: David Morrow, 165 Roberts Rd., Frankfort, KY 40601. 502-227-2874.

4240 UNDERGROUND, FOR SALE

UNDERGROUND ART sale- Crumb, Bode, Colwell, O'Neill, London, Flenniken, Williams, Griffith, Lynch, Spain, Shelton, Spiegelman, Trina, Moscoso, Mouse, Wilson, Jaxon, Metzger, Beck- see section 4400.

STUART (OCTOBRIANNA) Taylor and Joe (American Splendor) Zabel both like Prisonopolis, a dystopian crime comic. #1-4 $2 each. Mediawarp Comics, Box 14924, Minneapolis, MN 55414.

4241 UNDERGROUND, WANTED

ROLLING STONE #17. Top price paid. Also, anything obscure with Zap Guys art. Eric Sack, 201 Old York, Jenkintown, PA 19046. E-mail: efsack@aol.com

WANT UNDERGROUND comix and original underground art. Tom Woodrow, 24804 SE Mirrormont Place, Issaquah, WA 98027. 425-427-9028.

LOOKING FOR cheap, beat but complete reading copies of Slow Death, Skull, and Death Rattle. Send condition, price. Frank Lloyd, POB 270, Richwood, WV 26261.

4250 INDEPENDENTS, FOR SALE

CAVEWOMAN #2 NM- $35. (1st series) 919-553-8239. E-mail: bigguycomics@wdotv.net More comics available at www.bigguycomics.com, most 25% below Guide.

ETERNAL ROMANCE! All 3 issues for just $10 (ppd. and autographed). The original romance/horror comic! Janet Hetherington, #50-2845 Cedarwood Dr., Ottawa, ON Canada K1V 0G6.

SPAWN #1-10 NM plus Violator #1 NM, all for $65. Spawn 1-2 NM, $15. Vampirella 2-3, $14. Steve 219-272-1310.

DARKNESS #1-4 plus 50 different NM Independents, $35 postpaid. Charles Slater, 109 Prospect Avenue, North Arlington, NJ 07031.

ELFQUEST - FANTASY Quarterly #1 1st Elfquest! VF-NM, only $65. Hard to find! It took me years to find this copy! 360-373-2458.

FIRST MADMAN and other Indies available for sale or trade. SASE. Gary Banks, 1406 Wisteria St. SE, Cullman, AL 35055.

VEROTIKA 1 NM $12, Lady Death 1/2 NM $12. Prices include postage. Contact: Jason Scroggs, 345 Walnut Cir., Bolingbrook, IL 60440 or e-mail jasance@aol.com

JOHNNY THE Homicidal Maniac #1-6 all first prints: $80 set OBO. 805-788-0631. Leave message or write: Bob Watts, 3069 Broad, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401.

RAZOR #2 red ltd. signed edition. NM. Poster intact; $45 OBO. 805-788-0631 leave message or write: Rob Watts, 3069 Broad, San Luis Obispo, CA 93461.

WARRIOR NUN Areala 1-3 (1995) AP NM $20 set. Chaos Moon 1-3 NM $15. $4 postage. A. Musiala, 10601 South 72nd Ave., Palos Hills, IL 60465.

4250 INDEPENDENTS, FOR SALE

MATT'S PICKS: Wolff/ Byrd, Wretch, Batman/ Gotham, Caveman, Cave-woman, Dreamwalker, Finder, Mage, Mr. Blank, Nowhere, Pagliacci, Corto Maltese, Box-Office Poison, Boogeyman, Sherwood, Humongous Man 3 Elm, Hatfield, MA 01038.

MUSICOMICS MONTHLY- smart layouts, terse language, unique art, personal, singable, words, music, pictures- #1-31 5/$3. Sampler free4SASE: Walking Man Comics, 123 Elm, Hatfield, MA 01038.

EVIL ERNIE Revenger 1-4 $7, Snowman #1 (S.D.), #2, #0, 1944 #1, #3 and special, all for $25. Crypt of Dawn #1 $3. Andrew, awagner@com1.med.usf.edu

40 LINSNER items: Wild Ones #3 (10), Zorro #11 (5), Justice League Quart. #13 (5), Dawn #5 (10), Ltd. #4, 5, 6 (1), Drama signed (2), more: $50. Tom Bieber, 6003 Larkspur Dr., Alexandria, VA 22310.

ASH #1/2 signed by Quesada and Palmiotti, $20 OBO. No trades. Jeff, 18710 NW Rock Creek Cir. #9, Portland, OR 97229. E-mail: thecavalier@juno.com

X-FILES 1/2 $20, Hero Illustrated special $20, B&W Ashcan $22, all ppd. Terry Allen, 508 Bellwood Ln., Modesto, CA 95356-1745. 209-578-6765, 8 a.m.-10 p.m. Pacific.

4260 WESTERNS, FOR SALE

JOHN WAYNE Adventure #4 VG $100, Ghost Rider #14 Good $15, Gene Autry #5 Fine $45, many more. Tom 605-665-3595. tomdnels@hdc.net

TV WESTERN/ movie magazine, August 1959 Cheyenne, Tombstone Territory, Rifleman Trackdown, Autry, VG- $49 postpaid. Gordon Sclar, 5010 Lakeview Dr., Fayetteville, NY 13066. 315-637-8549.

WESTERN LOVE #1VG (1949) $50. Western Hero #77VG $25, Roy Rogers #24VG $12, #29VG $12, Real Western Hero #74FN/VF $65 many Lone Ranger 315-676-5931.

4261 WESTERNS, WANTED

GENE AUTRY (Fawcett) #4 G-VG, other Western heroes G-/VF/NM to 50% overstreet guide. Silvestri Jr., 17170 Melon Ave., Fontana, CA 92336. (Send large SASE).

BLACK DIAMOND Western #16-28. Gene Gallatin, 2783 C St. #17, San Diego, CA 92102. 619-986-1347. wolverweb@hotmail.com www.angefire.com/or/basil/

HOPALONG #4, 12, 15, 17, 21, 32, 41, 58, 62, 67, 75, 78, 82, 88, 90, 97, 105, 106. Western Hero 75, 76, 82. 718-266-2004.

FOX VG/F/VF Hoot Gibson 5 Range Busters 1, Western Killers 6, Western Outlaws 17, 21, Women Outlaws 3, 6. Larry Yasgar, 66 Emery Dr., Stamford, CT 06902. 203-978-1312.

4300 GOLDEN AGE, FOR SALE

DETECTIVE #29 (3rd Batman) coverless $900; Action #12 (Detective #27 ad) coverless $195; X-Men #1 VG/FN light restoration looks nice $450. Cliff 978-927-4024.

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SHADOW COMICS Vol. 7, No. 7, October 1947; Vol. 7, No. 8, November 1947. Mint, $600 each. James Maxwell, Box 367, Lampeter, PA 17537. 717-464-5572.

FREE CATALOG 90+ pages: Horror, Disney, Movie, Western, Esoteric, Sci-Fi. Send 4 32¢ stamps, $2 credit on first order: NACCA, 16 Split Rock Rd., Pittsford, NY 14534.

SPACE DETECTIVE: #2 Wally Wood cover and art about Fair $50, #3 Kintsler cover Fine $100. $5 postage. Cliff Gemmell, POB 740982, Arvada, CO 80006.

NEW BOOK of Comics #2 G- $995, Action #16 VG $675, Detective #17 G+ $1,125, Superman #11 VG $325. Roland 713-864-6649.

HUMBUG #1 VG; #2 VF; #3, #4, #5, #6 F; #8 VG; #9 VGF. $30 each, all $200. Cliff Gemmell, POB 740982, Arvada, CO 80006.

ADVENTURE #41 VG $825; Captain America #9 VG+ $800; Daredevil Comics #1 F $3,000, #2 VF $1,600; More Fun #59 VF- $2,000. Further Adventures 919-447-5946.

GOLDEN AGE Traders wanted. Have many #1's to trade. Your list for my list. Superheroes only. Tom Garcia, 3830 Neptune Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11224.

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FOX WEIRD Comics #6 VG+/Fine $175. Call Mike Kutz 612-888-8503, 6 a.m.-2 p.m. only.

CAPTAIN MARVEL Adv. #8 FN/VF beautiful white copy $300, #48 VF/NM fantastic condition $175, Detective #130 GD $60, #155 GD/VG $80, Dollman #15 VG/FN $80. 315-676-5931.

CRIME! ALL Famous Police #7 FN $48, Crime Exposed $9 VG $18, Crime Fighting Detective #19, FN/FN+ $35, Auth. Police Cases #3 FN/FN+ $165, Crime Fighters #7 FA/GD $7. Many more. Jack 413-549-0852.

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FAWCETT GENE Autry #6 Fine condition, #'s 2-12 coverless, all for $650. 319-377-3524. Dave Brauhn, 416 Waterbury, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402.

SUSPENSE #91 VG $350, Suspense 12 F Overstreet copy $750, Action 252 F/VF 1st Supergirl $50, Master Comics $1 VG/VG+ $1,250. Larry 541-461-4981 after 5pm PDT.

ALL STAR #51 G+ $93, Plastic Man #50 VG+ $45, Tomahawk G+ $45, Superboy #10 G $60, #21 VG- $45, Action 42 Fr $50. 253-862-5055.

DETECTIVE 51 Good++ $70, plus $3 postage. Andy Fish, 25 Tatman St., Worc, MA 01607. 7 day return if not satisfied.

FLASH COMICS 75, VF $350. Mark Drummond, 1302 North 49th Street, Apt. 10, Omaha, NE 68132. 402-553-5804 after 7pm.

ZOOT #14 VF/NM SOTI $600, Zoot #5 NM $120, Black Phantom #1 F/VF $170. Brian Boggs, 2875 Dunlop, Trenton, MI 48183. 734-692-5140.

SHOWCASE 20 May 1959 coverless $33 #26 May 1960 coverless $16 #38 1962 coverless $21 postage included. Robert Bowles, 219 First St., Rockwood, TN 37854.

4301 GOLDEN AGE, WANTED

WILL TRADE for GA comics. Have Gold/Silver to trade. Send me your list and I'll send mine. Barrett, 6328 Eliot St., Long Beach, CA 90803.

BUYING: DC, Timely. Low grade issues, coverless, return copies, covers. Also Silver Age Keys. Tom Gordon, PO Box 388, Manchester, MD. 410-848-0275.

LARGE FEATURE comics, series #1 and #2, feature books #1-57, 4 color comics, send lists to: Dave Brauhn, 416 Waterbury NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402.

LONE RANGER Feature Books #21 and #24, Large Feature Book #3 (1st Series) #7, Pluto (2nd Series), #13 1001 hours. Dave Brauhn, 401 76th Ave., Cedar Rapids, IA 52404.

FOX GIANTS G/VG/F/VF Truth About Crime (49), Variety Comics (w/Blue Beetle 46), Leading F/VF 2, 5, 12, Real Fact F/VF 12, 15, 16, 20. Larry Yasgar 203-978-1312.

FOX GIANTS G/VG/F/VF Exciting Romance Stories (49), Famous Love (50), Intimate Confessions (50), March of Crime (49), Secret Love (49), Strange Love (50), Sweetheart Scandals (50), Throbbing Love (50). Larry Yasgar 203-978-1312.

THIS MAGAZINE Is Haunted #3, Science Comics #4, Negro Romance #2 wanted. G/VG condition. Contact: Dennis Brennan, 94-30 59 Ave., Rego Park, NY 11373.

FEATURE BOOKS #1-57 in VG-VF condition. Trade GA or cash. Call 319-848-5231 or send list. Dave Brauhn, 416 Waterbury, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402.

FOX VG/F/VF Hoot Gibson 5; Range Busters 1; Western Killers 6; Western Outlaws 17, 21; Women Outlaws 3, 6. Larry Yasgar, 66 Emery Dr., Stamford, CT 06902. 203-978-1312.

WANTED IN unrestored VG to FN at Guide or less: Fighting Yank 4 to 10. Michael Lee, 115 East 9 St., #17-J, New York City, NY 10003.

SUPER DUPER #8 #11, Super Dooper #2-8, Spiritman #1, Man of War #2 V... Comics #2. Tom Garcia, 3830 Neptune Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11224.

BLAZING COMICS #5 Capt. Atom #5-6, Capt. Fearless #2, Capt. Marvel Storybook #1, Choice Comics #2. Tom Garcia, 3830 Neptune Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11224.

GREEN LAMA #3-5, #8, Green Mask Vol. 2 #3, #5-6, Major Victory #1, Key Ring Comics all #. Tom Garcia, 3830 Neptune Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11224.

WANTED: GOLDEN Age collections, and individual books. Pre-Code Horror, Good Girl, Hero, Crime. Silver too. Jason Lehto, 14303 NE 81st Street, Vancouver, WA 98682. 360-604-0705. E-Mail: jwlehto@aol.com

FREE MONEY! To anyone who finds me Fightin' Marines #16 and #28 (any condition) (Charlton). Steve Rash, 192 Corncrib Rd., Harrington, DE 19952. 302-398-4768.

WANTED BY collector. Action #1 fair, poor, coverless or incomplete. Just want to own one with the Superman story intact. Peter 619-523-5236 anytime.

CINDY COMICS #27 thru #40 wanted! Offering 2x-3x Guide for fine or better condition! Dan Winters 314-230-3072.

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COVERLESS ACTION 13, World's Finest 2, Back Cover to More Fun 53, Detective 9, FC To New Comics 6, New Adventure 27. Brian 860-347-5756.

ALL AMERICAN Comics #89, 92-95 Fine or better. Action Comics #149, 155, 167, 168, Fine or better. King, 16012 Meridian Ave. N, Shoreline, WA 98133.

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CAPTAIN AMERICA: 117 First Falcon VF++/NM very nice! Guide $60, sell $50, #110 Bucky vs Hulk NM-/NM $42.50. Great cover Shilhand $3. 1-888-43-COMIC.

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READING COPIES Wanted: Detective 236, 240, 241, 243, 244, 245, 250, 253, 253, 262. Karl Mattson, P.O. Box 784, Long Lake, MN 55356. 612-473-3938. kmattson40@aol.com

NEED COVERLESS or beat up copy of FF #4, have coverless FF #3 $40, Also looking for Buckler/ Janson Deathlok art. 732-495-0184: dford@netlabs.net

WANTED T.T.A. VF+ or better Strange Tales #110 Fine to VF Hawkman #4 VF+ or better. No restoration. Buy or trade. Charles 423-357-3197.

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GREEN ARROW 1-18 20, 23, 24, 40, 70, 74, Annual #1 $25. 245 Sherwood Ave., Trenton, NJ 08619. 609-587-4904.

DEADLY HANDS of Kung Fu #2 Good $3, Deadly Hands album edition #1 Fine $5. Add postage. Call Keith at 606-356-0087 to reserve.

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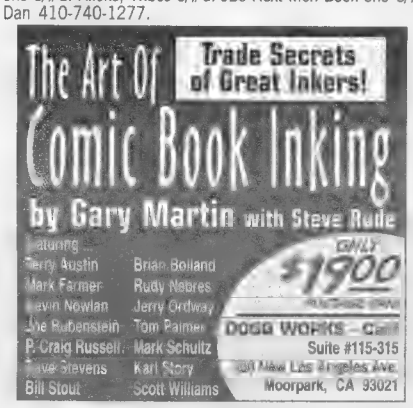

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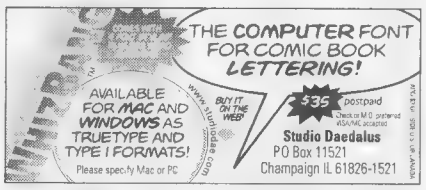
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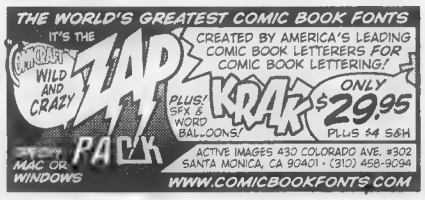
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SHADOW PULPS hardcovers, Cimr Club, Statues, etc. Mickey Ritter, 215-788-1706, 233 Wood St., Bristol, PA 19007.

PULPS WANTED: Spicy Detective Stories for January 1935 and March 1935. Condition unimportant. Robert Jones, 242 N. Western Ave. #614, Los Angeles, CA 90004. 213-466-4523.

SHADOW PULPS wanted. One or a ton. Condition unimportant. Dealers, individuals welcome. James Rupert, 1610 N St. #102, Lincoln, NE 68508. 402-434-3769, 24 hours.

COMPLETE COPIES in fair shape or better. All titles wanted. Argosy, Adventure, Weird Tales, etc. Large lots preferred. James Doyiakos, 2221 W. Lawrence, Chicago, IL 60625.

"SHADOW" FAN looking for someone to transcribe or copy Shadow stories from pulps for collection. Will pay costs. Rich Sawyer, 15 Eggebrecht, Laporte, IN 46350.

4450 MAGAZINES, FOR SALE

GIRLIE CARTOONS, sex object essays in R.C. Harvey's book "Not Just Another Pretty Face". For brochure, send SASE to: 2701 Maplewood, Champaign, IL 61821.

TV MEMORABILIA, magazines, comics, photos, Dukes, Chips, Starsky/ Hutch, X-Files, Hawaii 5-O, Playboys, etc. Catalogue $3. TV Guide catalogue $2. Rogofsky, Box 107-E, Glen Oaks, NY 11004.

THOUSANDS OF back issues: Starlog, Starburst, Dreamwatch, TV Zone, Dr. Who, Babylon 5, etc. $1 for catalog. Larry's Book Store, 1219 W. Devon Ave., Chicago, IL 60660. 773-274-1832. Website: www.scifispy.com

PLAYBOYS, PENTHOUSE, High Society, Hustler and more. Most half price. Send $1 for list to: World of Comics, 147 West Intl. Speedway Blvd., Daytona Beach, FL 32114.

FEAR LOATHING in Las Vegas Rolling Stone #95, #96 Nov. 1971. Both NM $50 postpaid. Take a trip through time. Bruce Meservey, 21 Clement, Worcester, MA 01603.

PLAYBOYS AND misc. rock music mags. (Creem, Circus, Hit Parader, etc.). Trade for Sept. 1962 Playboy. Adams, 97 Willow St., Lockport, NY 14094-4856. e-mail: JQAIII@aol.com

PLAYBOY MAGAZINES: Approx. 300, August 1974 thrugh May 1998. Consecutive monthly, yearly order! No separating. Original owner. Serious inquiries only. Frick, Box 113, Jonesboro, IL 62952.

4450 MAGAZINES, FOR SALE

SF MAGAZINES: Asimov, Analog, Omni, Fantasy and SF, Zimmer-Bradley Fantasy, Starlog, Animation, Sci-Fi Entertainment, Mad, Comics Scene. Send SASE. Magazines, PO Box 5121, Manchester, NH 03108.

POGO LOVERS. Univ Virginia "Spectator." Humor Mag. Pogo issue Feb51 Kelly cover $30 pp. Have others. Dean, 8010 Esperanza Bay, Boynton Bch, FL 33436. pdean01@aol.com

SCIENCE FICTION plus, 1953: April for sale. VG autographed on contents page by Alex Schomburg, $40 ppd. Jeff Fisher, P.O. Box 383, Lake Toxaway, NC 28747.

DOMESTIC AND foreign adult comics, magazines, graphic novels, film books, and much more. 64¢ SASE to: Ed, 335 Farrington Blvd., North Brunswick, NJ 08902.

ADULTS ONLY! Penthouse Comix #3 $5, #1 (Second print) $4-6, $3. Send statement of age. $3 postage. Michael Todasco, 117 Founders, Bloomingdale, IL 60108. 630-205-2357.

FORTEAN TIMES: Journal of strange Phenomena #60, #61, and #78 thru #102 (Dec.94-Oct.97) only $1 ea. plus postage. S. Dorne, 191-M Oakland St., Manchester, CT 06040.

TV GUIDE 1981. Almost complete, few duplicates $125 plus $8 shipping. Andrew Mackey, P.O. Box 711, Cannon Beach, OR 97110. 503-436-1203.

4451 MAGAZINES, WANTED

MAGAZINES WANTED! Top dollar paid for Monster, Sci-Fi, Humor, TV Guide, B&W comic format and others. Request "buying list" with LSASE. HRB Holdings Inc., PO Box 7086, Clearwater, FL 33758-7086.

NATURALIST (NUDIST) material wanted. Buying non-airbrushed mags., books, etc. Send lists with issue number, year, and conditions. S. Dowdy, 5120 North Spring, Roanoke, VA 24019.

GIRLIE MAGAZINES wanted from the 1950s to early 70s. Adam, Modern Man. Please send price list and condition. Bill Megyery, 1733A North Larrabee, Chicago, IL 60614.

SKIN DIVER Magazine, 1957 need all. Please help me find these. Charles Laporte, PO Box 294, Niles, MI 49120.

HELP! DEALER needs high grade Playboys, Penthouses and related items! Send issue number, condition, highlights, asking price! Jimmy Jams, 113 E. 3rd, Winona, MN 55987. Thank you!

CELEBRITY SLEUTH V.5 #5, 6, 8, 9; V.4 #2, 4, 6, 7, 9; V.3, #3, 6. Nelson Corey, RR 1 Box 1474, Waymart, PA 18472-9757.

AUGUST 23, 1963 Life magazine. Rodney Schroeter, Box 37766, Milwaukee, WI 53237-0766. sreels@execpc.com. Read "Atlas Shrugged" by Ayn Rand!

FAMOUS MONSTERS of Filmland. Reading copies wanted. Send lists. Also need Duende Shadow History, Ganglands Doom by Eisgruber. Thomas Hof, Box 2935, St. Louis, MO 63130.

LAUGH-IN MAGAZINES Wanted (1960's). Call Marc, 516-829-8376.

HUMORAMA ISSUES with art by Bill Ward. Alex Chun, 3530 Ocean View Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90066. akieu@ucla.edu

COMICS MAGAZINES edited by Ron Goulart for new media books. Will pay top $ dollar. Write: PO Box 68131, Minneapolis, MN 55418. Thank you!

SCORE MAGAZINES wanted 1992 thru 1995 issues. Also Bust Out prior to 1995. Rick Felchlin, 10216 Aquilla Dr., Lakeside, CA 92040. 916-258-6273 call collect afternoons.

ADULT MAGAZINES US/Foreign 1960s-1990s. Comics 1960s-1970s. Adult videos. Girlie calendars. Wackies. Cheap only, condition unimportant. Steve, 420 Fourth Avenue, Bethlehem, PA 18018.

4452 SCIENCE FICTION, FOR SALE

HEINLEIN PAPERBACKS 17 different titles many vintage (pre-1970) various grades. All 17 for $35 postpaid. SASE gets detailed list. Bruce Meservey, 21 Clement, Worcester, MA 01603.

4453 SCIENCE FICTION, WANTED

HARSH MISTRESS #1, any condition. Quote me your asking price. 315-593-3454, leave message, or write: Bill Finocchiaro, 611 Kimball Ave., Fulton, NY 13069.

4600 REPRINTS, FOR SALE

DIGEST COMICS, Blue Ribbon #4 (GL). Best of DC #5 (year's best). Archie's Superhero #1, 2, $2.25 ea. ppd. John, 328 Powhatan, Columbus, OH 43204-1965.

4601 REPRINTS, WANTED

NBM TERRY and the Pirates SC Daily's Vol. 22-24 wanted VG or better. James Cassara, PO Box 18553, Asheville, NC 28814. jjcassara@aol.com

4605 PHONE CARDS FOR SALE

BOY2 II Men phone cards! Get these rare collectors items. Only $5 each. Call now to order 800-255-8712.

4610 PORTFOLIOS/POSTERS FOR SALE

PORTFOLIOS, PRINTS. Hundreds available. Smith, Frazetta, Wrightson, Corben, Adams, Steranko, more! SASE for free list. I also buy! Wesley, P.O. Box 366, Morrow, GA 30260.

MOVIE POSTERS, stills, pressbooks. Hundreds from 1970's to early '80's. Some gems, some junk, will sell individually, call for list. Bruce Reynolds 314-962-0837.

FRAZETTA PORTFOLIOS- Kubla Khan #3/1,500, Women of Ages #4/1,500, $150 each or both for $250, include $5 postage. Cliff Gemmell, POB 740982, Arvada, CO 80006.

BODE' ADORATION print, color, Bode' surrounded in arch of characters, $22 postpaid. Wes Tillander, PO Box 366, Morrow, GA 30260.

FRAZETTA FAMOUS Funnies portfolio set ten color plates fine shape in envelope $35. Frame them! Bob Nastasi, 12 Gillette Avenue, Sayville, NY 11782. 516-567-8069.

LADY DEATH print #187/1000; Hughes and Jensen signed 25"x36". Rolled, $45 postpaid. 941-966-6816. Charles Reagle, 600 Eaglenook Way, Osprey, FL 34229. E-mail: buymystuff@juno.com Website: www.geocities.com/eureka/gold/5474

4611 PORTFOLIOS/POSTERS WANTED

KELLEY JONES 1992 Northstar/Comico portfolios wanted. Send price to: Ronn Sutton, #50-2845 Cedarwood Dr., Ottawa, ON Canada K1V 0G6.

4630 TRADING CARDS FOR SALE

QUESADA SIGNED card included in QFX 4 card promo. Wolverine, Magneto, Howard, Ghostrider, only $4 set postpaid. Serge Fidlon, 19221 Sherman Way #21, Reseda, CA 91335.

WACKY PACKAGES. Original 70's series. Sets 1-10. Three stickers missing. Will sell as collection or buy the set. Call now! Bruce Reynolds 314-962-0837.

SIMPSONS SERIES Two $10 set, Wiggles 1-9 $3#, small orama 1-10 $2@. Commons 20¢ each. Gerald Knutson, 1565 East Lake Bluff, Shorewood, WI 53211.

3,000 FANTASY Art/ comic scards. Boris, Frazetta, Bell, Olivia, X-Files, Marvel, DC, etc. $40 ppd. Tom Millard, 1700 Street Rd. D-2, Warrington, PA 18976.

WACKY PACKAGES unopened wax boxes. 7th series $450, 12th series $550. Original series, rare find! Free shipping. Mario Luna 312-738-3285.

4630 TRADING CARDS FOR SALE

PROMOTIONAL MOTION card from the movie Flubber. $10 each or 2 for $15. Free promos with order. Frank Brevard, PO Box 2492, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

NIGHTMARE BEFORE Christmas complete card set, $22 postpaid. Beautiful. Wes Tillander, PO Box 366, Morrow, GA 30260.

WACKY PACKAGES Handbook 2nd edition because first one sold out $17 prepaid. Receive free uncut sheet Lost Wackys #2. Phil Carpenter, Caltech MC 216-76, Pasadena, CA 91125.

XENA CARD set $15, Lost In Space movie $15, Sirius Gallery $13, Heavy Metal Fak 2 $10. Free shipping. Sandra De Fazio, 70 Cody Place, Staten Island, NY 10312.

TEST ITEMS by Topps Batman stickers box $125, Mickey, Pluto, Donald candy containers never released box $290. Tom Garcia, 3830 Neptune Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11224.

MIGHTY MORPHIN Power Rangers movie set $7; pop-ups 50¢@; holograms $3@, holofoil Zords $3@. Postage $2. Gerald Knutson, 1565 East Lake Bluff, Shorewood, WI 53211.

CHARLIE'S ANGELS 1st Series window display Topps $98, Saturday Serials #2 pack $2, set $10. Tom Garcia, 3830 Neptune Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11224. 718-373-3089.

SETS, SINGLES, inserts. Fantasy, Disney, Garfield, Bloom County, Beatles. Large SASE or $1 gets list. 184 Margie Dr., Pleasant Hill, CA 94523. juriscards@aol.com

PROMO CARDS! 250 (all different) non-sports promo cards for $75, 150 for $50. Singles also available. Billy Shipley, 4907 Ivanhoe, San Antonio, TX 78228. 210-434-7340.

SETS: BEST of Boris $25, Beatles (1993) $30, Batman holo or Superman holo commons 50¢ each. Gerald Knutson, 1565 E. Lake Bluff, Shorewood, WI 53211.

APPROX. 32,000 Fantasy and Superhero cards. 90% in alpha/ numerical order. $400 plus postage. SASE for list. Brevard, PO Box 2492, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

PARTY TIMES arrives when our orders ship out. Help the cause! Duke Card Co., 16 Middle Lane, Westbury, NY 11590. dukelabs@specdata.com

4631 TRADING CARDS WANTED

WANTED: STAR Trek original series II, mirror mirror cards. I pay $150 per card 1-7. 800-634-4902. David Curtis, 1806 Sycamore, Killeen, TX 76543.

MARVEL VS. Wildstorm parallel refractor cards wanted: singles or 90 card set. Also: DC vs Marvel promo stickers from 1995. Jerry 412-734-5626 or Hop4@aol.com

4631 TRADING CARDS WANTED

PLAYBOY CARDS: Aug 41, 42, 65, 66, 83, 84, 86, Sept. 38, 39, 80, 81, 111, Playboy Puzzles. Louis Bosse, 1120 Aurora, Muskegon, MI 49442.

WANTED: EMPIRE Strikes Back sticker #26. E.T. Sticker #11, 12. Universal Monsters (Topps) #1, 69. Please write first. Thanks. Brian Kallenberg, P.O. Box 223, Lambertville, MI 48144.

MEANE BABIES bonus card from Guff Comic. Sailor Moon Pristmatic promos. Crash and Burn promos numbered C, D. Art, 107 Brook Circle, Danville, VA 24541.

ADAM WARREN freefall card. Same image as Grunge TPB. Paying $2. Steven Ng, 4996 Hyde Park Dr., Fremont, CA 94538. 510-656-7157. stevenang@juno.com

BABYLON 5 Mall Tour postcards wanted. Godzilla chrome and Spider-Man parallel cards. Lost in Space movie autographs wanted. Jeff Thompson 609-443-2340.

JUSKO1 ERB live action promos, also "Thuvia maid of Mars" promo. JJERB1 FPG autographs. Chopper chicks autographs. Hercules Bimbo bread 3D cards. 617-723-5155. martin_casas@yahoo.com

BETTY BOOP Chase cards and commons wanted. other Betty Boop art as well. John French, 5707 Walther Ave., Baltimore, MD 21206.

JOE JUSKO Colossal cards Series 2, anybody have a box (or two) to sell? That's Series 2/ Jusko Colossal! Roth, 3B, 642 E 233rd St., Bronx, NY 10466-2824.

4650 OLDTIME RADIO, FOR SALE

REMCO RADIOCRAFT Crystal Radio Kit, complete boxed unused toy set. Swap for toy, comic or sell. Dan, PO Box 152, Franklin, NJ 07416.

THE SHADOW radio show 16" RCA transcription disc, exc. shape. Best offer. 610-692-3112. Roland Coover, 1537 E. Strasburg Rd., West Chester, PA 19380.

4651 OLDTIME RADIO, WANTED

DOC SAVAGE 1985 National public radio show, audio cassette copies. Did this really exist? Dubs ok. Mike Clear, 5E Van Cortland Circle, Beacon, NY 12508.

4660 MISCELLANEOUS, FOR SALE

NEW LATE Spring catalog, 8,000 oddball sports collectibles heavily discounted now ready. Trades OK. $1 postpaid. Southshore, Box 262, Marlboro, NJ 07746. 732-972-9435 evenings, weekends.

4660 MISCELLANEOUS, FOR SALE

STAR TREK Tech Manual, 1st ed., in great condition. Asking $100 OBO. J. Ryan, 4860 Bluesky Dr., Castle Rock, CO 80104. jimryan@aol.com

15 ASSORTED store promos, ashcans and previews for only $20 including P&H. Sorry, no more "Preacher" previews. Many others! High-Quality Comics, 1106 2nd St. #110, Encinitas, CA 92024. 800-682-3936.

INKER WANTED to collaborate on submissions and possible independent project. Send samples and SASE to: Keith Dotson, HC 60, Box 89, Hurley, VA 24620.

HALLMARK GOLDEN Age Superman Statue $150 plus shipping. Classic Star Trek boxed set, gold foil logo, $75. Lanny 937-372-7259.

SINBAD THE Sailor 16mm cartoon shorts from 1960s, $200 or best offer. Joe Guenther, 3 Kim Valley, Trenton, NJ 08620-2611.

UNUSUAL AND Unique bumper stickers, buttons and T-shirts. SASE for catalog. Pegasus Publishing, P.O. Box 151601, Arlington, TX 76015-7601. http://www.bob.com

CRACKED "X-MEN" Special, $5 includes shipping. Also have Marvel, DC, Images comics and toys. SASE to: Linda Mar, 11015 Freer Street, Temple City, CA 91780.

MTG 5TH edition starter decks $7.50, 5th edition booster pack $2.50. Prices include shipping. Send to: Steve Tafuni, POB 43, Valrico, FL 33595-0043. E-mail: sstcmx@aol.com

FOOTBALL PROGRAM. Yale/Princeton game. Nov12/1927 cover by John Held Jr. Ad's by Briggs, Williams. $35 pp. Dean, 8010 Esperanza Bay, Boynton Beach FL 33436.

MIGHTY MARVEL Bicentennial calendar 1976 MCG. Way Cool! VG-Fine. Romita, Kane, Starlin, Buscema, etc. $40 ppd. Mark Kirkpatrick, 324 East Brooks, Brookfield, MO 64628.

GODZILLA 1954! Subtitled! Mint on name brand tape! $10 plus $2 S&H! Send check or money to: Jim Watnem, 5361 Eastway #4, Greendale, WI 53129.

PEREZ BATMAN postcard from JLA postcard set. Not in factory set, rare, $10 postpaid. Wes Tillander, PO Box 366, Morrow, GA 30260.

HUNDREDS OF Comics must go. Specify company you collect and send a stamped self addressed envelope. Mark Klein, 147-09 78th Rd., Flushing, NY 11367.

NORMA SHEARER autographed photo, 1940's, 9x12, B&W, call for condition, $35 plus $4 UPS. Terry 215-627-7258.

BROTHER THEODORE LP recorded Carnegie Hall, 5/21/55. If you still want a copy, mine is VF-NM $27.50 ppd. Dale Dickson, 150 Maple #202, Chicago, IL 60610.

COMICS BUYER'S GUIDE

FREE CLASSIFIED WORD ADS

For Comics Buyer's Guide Subscribers!!!

Classifieds are a great place to advertise if you want to buy or sell comics, and now CBG subscribers can place classified word ads for **FREE!**

This offer is limited to CBG subscribers only. You can place one ***FREE CLASSIFIED*** ad in every weekly issue of **COMICS BUYER'S GUIDE** until this offer expires. These ads must be 25 words or less and fall under the available classifications listed below. Free classified ads must be submitted on the original free ad form you will find every week in **COMICS BUYER'S GUIDE.** Send in one ad every week, but send no money, these ads are absolutely ***FREE!***

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4050 Small Press, For Sale
4051 Small Press, Wanted
4100 Archie, For Sale
4101 Archie, Wanted
4110 Black & White, For Sale
4111 Black & White, Wanted
4120 Classic, For Sale
4121 Classic, Wanted
4122 Comic Collections, For Sale
4123 Comic Collections, Wanted
4128 Dark Horse Wanted, For Sale
4130 DC, For Sale
4131 DC, Wanted
4140 Dell/Gold Key/Whitman, For Sale
4141 Dell/Gold Key/Whitman, Wanted
4150 Disney, For Sale
4151 Disney, Wanted
4160 EC, For Sale
4161 EC, Wanted
4170 Fawcett, For Sale
4171 Fawcett, Wanted
4180 Foreign, For Sale
4181 Foreign, Wanted
4190 Harvey, For Sale
4191 Harvey, Wanted
4200 Humor/Funny Animals, For Sale
4201 Humor/Funny Animals, Wanted
4204 Image, Wanted/For Sale
4207 Malibu, Wanted/For Sale
4210 Marvel/Timely, For Sale
4211 Marvel/Timely, Wanted
4220 Science Fiction/Horror, For Sale
4221 Science Fiction/Horror Wanted
4240 Underground, For Sale
4241 Underground, Wanted
4250 Independents, For Sale
4251 Independents, Wanted
4255 Valiant/Voyager, Wanted/For Sale
4260 Westerns, For Sale
4261 Westerns, Wanted
4300 Golden Age
4301 Golden Age, Wanted
4310 Silver Age, For Sale
4311 Silver Age, Wanted
4320 General Comics, For Sale
4321 General Comics, Wanted
4400 Original Art, For Sale
4401 Original Art, Wanted
4410 Big Little Books, For Sale
4411 Big Little Books, Wanted
4420 Books - General, For Sale
4421 Books - General, Wanted
4430 Paperbacks, For Sale
4431 Paperbacks, Wanted
4440 Pulps, For Sale
4441 Pulps, Wanted
4450 Magazines, For Sale
4451 Magazines, Wanted
4452 Science Fiction, For Sale
4453 Science Fiction, Wanted
4600 Reprints, For Sale
4601 Reprints, Wanted
4605 Phone Cards, For Sale
4606 Phone Cards, Wanted
4610 Portfolios/Posters, For Sale
4611 Portfolios/Posters, Wanted
4630 Trading Cards, For Sale
4631 Trading Cards, Wanted
4650 Oldtime Radio, For Sale
4651 Oldtime Radio, Wanted
4660 Miscellaneous, For Sale
4661 Miscellaneous, Wanted
4700 Novelties/Toys/Games, For Sale
4701 Novelties/Toys/Games, Wanted
4720 Video Games, For Sale
4721 Video Games, Wanted
4800 Fanzines, For Sale
4801 Fanzines, Wanted
4900 Newspaper Strips, For Sale
4901 Newspaper Strips, Wanted

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- One free classified ad per subscriber per week.
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- Free classified ads must list only specific comics and related items you wish to buy, sell or trade. See the available classifications listed on this page.
- Sorry . . . we cannot accept ads for price list or want list solicitations.
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NEW

- **At your request,** we are now offering you the option of having your ad run for 3 additional weeks (total 4x's) for only $5.00. SAVES: Postage and you will no longer need to send a coupon each week.

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16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25

Make sure your address is listed above exactly as you wish it to appear in the ad. When post office box number is used, we require your complete name and street address below for our files.

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Advertising deadline is:
Tuesday, July 7, 1998 for the July 31, 1998 issue.

COMICS BUYER'S GUIDE

Mail to:
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Dept. CX, 700 E. State Street
Iola, WI 54990-0001

4660 MISCELLANEOUS, FOR SALE

STATUES FOR sale! Collection being broken, Batman w/ original box and wrapper $850, first Grendel blue box $300, Lobo w/box and wrapper $300. Many, many others. Larry 414-652-2160.

WONDER WOMAN porcelain $100 OBO. Next Men #24 cover $50 OBO. Will trade for original WW/JLA art by Wojtkiewicz or WW by Byrne or Perez. George Rand, 3646 6th Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90018-4241. teja@deltanet.com

BATMAN COLLECTING old & new original & signed limited art! Statues, comics, cards, toys, watches, movie props & promos, books. Call for info voice 714-953-8333. Email: pashnutguy@aol.com

ASIAN ACTION cinema! Hong King, Japan and more on VHS. For catalog send SASE (2 stamps) to: Gweilo Video, PO Box 2811, Redmond, WA 98073.

CAST IRON toy guns and capshooters by Logan and best (out of print), like new, $125. Jesse Lopez, 2112 Ceralvo St., San Antonio, TX 78237.

DAWSON'S CREEK - What's all the talk about? Find out 12 episodes on 2 tapes, $25 postage paid. Gerald Tilley, 33540 CR31, La Junta, CO 81050.

STAR WARS 23K gold cards: Empire Strikes Back, Return of the Jedi, Star Wars The Movie. Set of all 3 $65. 616-684-5473.

SCI-FI/ HORROR Videos; 30s-60s. I can find and send that missing film. Include postcard. G. Cook, 4 Mowbray Lane, Cold Spring Harbor, NY 11724.

JACK DAVIS artwork: Fortune Cookie 27x41" movie poster (B) pin holes $40, Scream Queens #18 (Nudity) $5, Tease #7 $7. Polwort, POB 5152, St. Louis, MO 63139.

FUNNY AND unique bumper stickers and buttons. SASE for catalog. Pegasus Publishing, PO Box 151601, Arlington, TX 76015-7601. 888-673-4782. http://www.bab.com

4661 MISCELLANEOUS, WANTED

WANTED: FOSSIL Spider-Man, AMF #15 watch new/mint in box. Have other fossil watches for trade. Let's trade! Tom Vanko, 1527 Somerset Drive, Munster, IN 46321-4387.

MST3K SEASONS 1-7. Have many to trade, will to buy. Matt Biswell, 1843 University Drive, Boise, ID 83706-3020.

HOT WHEELS Sky Show Stunt set. Set is from 1970 and consists of a pickup truck with built-in launcher and 6 airplanes. Gene 281-347-0648.

DIXIE CHICK items wanted, videos, CD's, posters, photos, magazines, articles. A. Crocker, RR 1 Box 106, Haworth, OK 74740.

MAD AND Warren hardback books with dust jackets. Pamela Lee, Tommy VHS videos. EC, Playboy, Press paperbacks. Biff Smith, 1344 West Flower, Phoenix, AZ 85013.

PHANTOM OF the Paradise: Wolfman Jack 45" record, script (or copy), posters, any promo items. John Adams, 97 Willow St., Lockport, NY 14094-4856. e-mail: JQAIII@aol.com

HBO'S Tales from the Crypt/ Perversions of Science: any new episodes since 96/97? If so, I need dub of them. Bob 508-995-6968.

PRE-1950 HUNTING Fishing and related magazines. Send condition and quotes to: Brian Garrand, 850 Rt. 22, Mooers, NY 12958.

GHITA OF Alizarr - Part 2 the 1983 version published by Blue Dolphin. E-mail: mason200@gte.net or call days 281-421-6102.

VHS: B5 episodes "All Alone in the Night" and the two parter "War Without End". X-Files episode "Firewalker". Tony Midyett, 6832 Schroeder, Madison, WI 53711.

WANTED: COPY of May 1, 1998 Darin Morgan episode of Millennium. Call/ write: Francis Veltri, 1001 River Oaks Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15215. 412-782-2886.

WATCHMAN BUTTON - Smiley face w/blood, Metropolis ltd. by Kaluta, Madman statue, presentation sets for Kaluta card sets. Todd 609-587-5100 ext. 6268. 7am-3:30pm.

4661 MISCELLANEOUS, WANTED

LOTTERY COLLECTORS. Join Global Lottery collectors, FREE ads, 12 page monthly newsletter, FREE AZ.1195/v. write: Ronald Bradley, 1964 East Rockwood Drive, Phoenix, AZ 85024-3059.

ROGER RABBIT movie memorabilia, toys, watches, National Car rental promos, Japan phone cards and other "Tuff Stuff". Allen, 1719 #1 Bay St., Charlotte, NC 28204. 704-331-0920.

WRESTLING VIDEOS, Fan Cam, Nitro Party, Amateur Fun, Dress Ups. Also erotic type oil mud food fights. Charles Kline, PO Box 791, Cleveland, MS 38732-0791.

"STRIP AID" trade paperback, AIDS research benefit w/many artists, circa 1989, contact Gary 360-352-0432. 8916 Blomberg St. SW, Olympia, WA 98512. e-mail: grossfan@olywa.net

HAVE YOU got prints, art books, SF or mysteries, pin-up art, old pulps or digests? Send your list! Dave LeClair, 3 Arlington, Holyoke, MA 01040.

WIZARD OF Oz, older pre-1950 items wanted. Top prices paid. 719-481-4231, 5-10 p.m. MOST M-F, anytime weekends or 719-390-1900 days.

WOLVERTON WANTED (Ambassador college publications) The Bible Story (all volumes); 1975 in Prophecy; The Book of Revelation Unveiled at Last. Gary Johannigmeier, 618-692-9302. garyjoh@iw.edwpub.com

4700 NOVELTIES, TOYS, GAMES FOR SALE

MODEL KITS: Plastic, resin and vinyl. From and of comics, Sci-Fi, TV, movies, space, figures, etc. Old and new, hundreds available. Free sales catalog, we also buy and trade. JF Green Models, Dept. CBG, PO Box 55787, Riverside, CA 92517. 909-684-5300, 800-807-4759, Fax 909-684-8819, e-mail: cbg@greenmodels.com website: http://www.greenmodels.com

LOONEY TUNES Glasses 1973 Hardees/ Pepsi series, 14 diff. (complete set?) Classic studio designs (Jones, Clampett, etc.) Like new, $150. Bruce Reynolds 314-962-0837.

GODZILLA 6 ft. tall, inflatable. 1985 in box (with patch kit). Deep down you've always wanted one, here's your chance, $50. Bruce Reynolds 314-962-0837.

BATMAN ON Gargoyle statue, mint condition in box, $950 OBO. 540-466-6337. oberon0013@aol.com

THE PHANTOM metal skull ring from the movie, premium give-away, may be adjusted to wear, $20 postpaid. Steve Berdy, 159 Sherman Ave., Newark, NY 14513.

STAR WARS, Shadows, Dash, Rendar, Luke Emp-Guard, Leia Boush, $9.99 ea. Speeder Bike $19.99, Swoop Bike $19.99, Luke Speeder Bike white $29.99, $3 shipping. Mark 918-836-3718 or 918-455-8334.

STAR WARS 12" Cantina band set $269.99, Cantina band singles $49.99, very hard to find. Sand Trooper Ltd. $49.99. Others, call. $3 shipping. Mark 918-836-3718 or 918-455-8334.

STAR WARS 12" new: Greedo, Grand Tarkin $39.99, one per case. Chewbacca $49.99, Greedo Ltd. $59.99, new, At-At Driver $39.99, others $3 shipping. Mark 918-836-3718 or 918-455-8334.

STAR WARS 12": new Snowtrooper or Luke-Hoth $32.99 ea. New Hans Hoth or At-At Driver $39.99 ea. Only one per case. Others $3 shipping. Mark 918-836-3718 or 918-455-8334.

STAR WARS: Ewoks, Biggs, Lak Sivrak .00 49.99 ea., Capt. Piett, ISH! TPB, Zuckuss .00 $9.99 ea., Darth removable helmet $14.99, very cool, $3 shipping. Mark 918-836-3718 or 918-455-8334.

STAR WARS, Han's, Endor, Brown parts no slide $29.99 ea. Blespin Luke .00 $29.99 ea., Slave Leia, Green card no slide $14.99 ea., others, $3 shipping. Mark 918-836-3718 or 918-455-8334.

WILD BILL Hickok's board game, TV's Guy Madison, VF to NM, complete, $60 postpaid. Steve Berdy, 159 West Sherman Ave., Newark, Ny 14513. 315-331-6618.

4700 NOVELTIES, TOYS, GAMES FOR SALE

SPAWN GODDESS $17.99, Goddess repaint $17.99, Mafina Spawn Reprint $14.99, Gene Simmons $19.99, Kiss set with letters $64.99, others, call, $3 shipping. Mark 918-836-3718 or 918-455-8334.

SPAWN CY-GOR $19.99, Cy-Gor repaint $14.99, Cyber-Violator $14.99, Violator II $14.99, Vertebreaker $14.99, Widow Maker repaint $14.99, others call, $3 shipping. Mark 918-836-3718 or 918-455-8334.

VINTAGE FOSSIL Superman watch, no extras, box. Brown band small scratches on front, $60 ppd. Frank 415-673-0427.

STAR WARS Yoda, C-3PO, Leia, Stormtrooper, Ben Short Saber, red cards $14.99 ea., Bib Fortuna, Emperor, Yak Face, Grand Tarkin, $9.99 ea., others, $3 shipping. Mark 918-836-3718 or 918-455-8834.

1977 STAR Wars Millenium Falcon from Kenner, good shape, some parts missing. Call for info. $28 includes shipping. Call John at 507-288-4884.

AURORA TARZAN original 1967 model kit, unopened in original sealed cellophane plastic. Like new, $150. James Van Hise, 57754 Onaga Trail, Yucca Valley, CA 92284.

STAR WARS Greedo JC Penney Exclusive $45 postage paid. Chewbacca $65; Cantina Band set $300. Many other 12" figures. Mark Arthington, 1143 Mary Dr., Prattville, AL 36066.

HONEYMOONERS GAME. Sealed perfect box, color cast photos cover: $35 postpaid (USA). Dale Dickson, 150 Maple, #202, Chicago, IL. 312-787-7962.

"BATMAN RETURNS" Talking bank, MIB @ $25 ppd. "Taking Venom" banned from stores, MOC $15 ppd. B.K.M., 30 Young Avenue, Croton-On-Hudson, NY 10520.

BATMAN ACTION figures, send wants. K.O. Joker MOC $70, animated target set $40, animated Riddler MOC $50. Ryan, 10049 Oakleaf Place, Cupertino, CA 95014.

MAGIC PLAYERS! Embrace the darkness MTG: the Dark Packs available again. Five dollars ppd. Write to: Jerry Crowe, 7554 River Rd., Olmsted Falls, OH 44138.

TRANSFORMERS: MINT, boxed, First Generation, Astrotrain $60, Ultra Magnus $65, Thundercracker $90, gift wrap $15, $5 postage. John Fawcett, Box 1156, Waldoboro, ME 04572.

STAR TREK 1701 three figure set: Yar, Picard, Barclay, $50. Han Solo and Tauntaun $150. Postage and insurance included. Steven Pearlman 973-857-3960.

4701 NOVELTIES, TOYS, GAMES WANTED

CLOISONNE PINS wnated. Send photo copy to: Doug Lipman, 57 Taylor St. #320, San Francisco, CA 94102.

MEGO, G.I. Joe, 70's toys and 60s-70s Christmas catalogs wanted. Also Mego TV commercials for sale. $20 ppd. Contact: Chris at carly@ldd.net

MONKEES ITEMS wanted: Toys, games, sheet music, tickets, etc. Circus Boy items also wanted. Rick Rann, Box 877, Oak Park, IL 60303.

BEATLES CARTOON kit wanted. (Colorforms 1966). Yellow Submarine items also wanted. Rick Rann, PO Box 877, Oak Park, IL 60303.

JACK IN the boxes wanted: Cat in the Hat and Popeye (1957). Also 1950s Superman metal lunch box, Dave Clark Five doll set (Remco 1964) wanted. Doug Hazlewood 512-572-8658.

SUPERFRIENDS WANTED! Toys, games, books, ads. Anything up to 1980. Please write. Richard Yanchus, 235 St. Clair St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18705. Send want lists!!

CAPTAIN AMERICA from Electro-Spark Spider-Man series. Will pay $15 postpaid. Also need Sub-Mariner (FF). Jim Troost, 1165 59th St. SE, Kentwood, MI 49508.

MEGO 12" MIB, Hulk, Jor-el, Robin, Wonder Woman, Superman (non-movie), Also Bulldog Cafe cookie jar from Rocketeer. Tony 847-985-2485 evenings, CT, Thanks!

4701 NOVELTIES, TOYS, GAMES WANTED

CBG'S #1 Mego Buyer- pieces, figures, large collections. Len Knappenberger, 1148 Dennis Dr., South Bend, IN 46614. knappleli@aol.com 219-299-1584. Also want 7-11 Slurpee cups.

SUPERMAN WANTED! Yes, I am "America's Foremost Superman Collector" and I would like to buy your Superman collectibles. Danny Fuchs, 209-80 18th Avneue, Bayside, NY 11360.

4720 VIDEO GAMES FOR SALE

DOWNLOAD A Free 3-D Game Demo at http://members.tripod.com/~adano3dgame/index.html - won't work with mac e-mail kashyyyk@wnol.net

70+ NINTENDO games, $250 takes all postage paid! Many great games. Sold as one lot only. Mark Farace, 6577 Arsenal, St. Louis, MO 63139.

4800 FANZINES, FOR SALE

ALTER EGO #11 VFN+ 1978, Bill Everett, interviewed by Roy Thomas. $10. Comics Journal $42-50 VF/NM all nine $15. 412-342-2156 after 8pm EST.

YELLOWBACK LIBRARY is a monthly magazine for collectors of children's series books. Sample issue $3. Gil O'Gara, Box 36172, Des Moines, IA 50315.

JAPANESE ANIMATION fanzine- news, reviews, translations, articles, fan art. Plus discounts on videos. hasshin@tiac.net. Send long SASE. Anime Hasshin, PO Box 5121, Manchester, NH 03108.

C.B.G. Available for the past 3 years. You pay only shipping costs. J Ryan, 4860 Bluesky Dr., Castle Rock, CO 80104. jimryaniii@aol.com

MARVEL AGE 1-41, 43-87, Annual 3, 4, DC Focus 1, Direct Currents 1-5. $20 ppd. Jamme Coy, 500 Virginia, Ashland, VA 23005.

4801 FANZINES, WANTED

COMIC BUYER'S Guide #843 plus other issues with Gaylord DuBois 6 part article. Photocpy of article OK. R. Dumont, 750 Whittemore, Middlebury, CT 06762. 203-598-3529.

4900 NEWSPAPER STRIPS, FOR SALE

PICK OUT dates. Daily and Sunday. Great Selection. 1895 to 1997. Send your wantlist and SASE to: Gordon Campbell, 1124 Brookmeade Drive, Nashville, TN 37204

CHARLES SCHULZ subscribes to Hogan's Alley- shouldn't you? For fans of stripes, books. Sample issue $7. Hogan's Alley, Box 47684, Atlanta, GA 30362. www.cagle.com/hogan

SUNDAYS/ DAILIES Sell/ buy. Starland strips. Phone/ Fax 510-666-0732. 1563 Solano #155, Berkley, CA 94707.

MOST TITLES most dates. 1900-1970s. Send wants. Big list in preparation $1. Ken Mitchell, 710 Conacher Drive, Willowdale, Ontario, Canada M2M 3N6.

TARZAN SUNDAY Strips by Russ Manning 1968 full year. All in plastic sleeves, VG cond., $50. Alfred Farrugio, 21 W. Lyons St., Melville, NY 11747.

SUNDAY STRIPS: Want to be a dealer - very large stock for sale, $1,000 retail, $500. Interested parties inquire. Claude Held, Box 515, Buffalo, NY 14225.

4901 NEWSPAPER STRIPS, WANTED

BUYING PRE-1930 Sunday pages, full color fulls! Paying high prices! See my "Todays Collector" ad! Michael Dice, Drawer 1748, Cortez, CO 81321. 970-564-9018. E-mail: oldcomix@fone.net

WANTED: MENOMONEE Falls Gazette: 33, 197, 98, 199, 200. Hawkshaw Sun Strips - runs preferred - 1939 on. Pres, 24714 Eilat St., Woodland Hills, CA 91367-1033.

But I Digress

From Page 66

"A receding hare line!"

Shelby didn't know whether to laugh or moan and wound up choking as she waffled between the two. And as groaning mixed with guffaws on the bridge of the *Excalibur*, the *U.S.S. Hutch* broke off communication and — its job done — hurtled off in search of new missions.

Ironically, a passing reference to Captain Binky did wind up in the book. But readers had no idea what it was in reference to.

I also introduced an all-powerful, super-intelligent race called The Prometheans. I had a definite concept in mind for them. At the last moment, Paramount refused to allow it through. When one of the Prometheans first shows up on the *Excalibur*, the printed description is that he looks like a Southern sheriff or something. Uh uh. This was the original description of the all-powerful super-race:

"Hi. How y'all doing. Glad to be here. Really am."

The Promethean was nearly six feet tall and looked completely human, a man in his late 30s, early 40s at most. He was dressed in a fairly tight suit of purest white, and it was covered with shimmering stones that seemed to catch the light in a thousand different ways, giving him almost the effect of a living prism. A short cape hung off his right shoulder. His stomach was taut and flat, his jaw was squared off, and he had a thick head of black hair with a curl that hung down impishly on his forehead.

He sported thick sideburns that ran halfway down his jaw, and when he spoke his voice was deep with a faint twang to it.

He took a step down from where he was standing, smiled at Lefler, and touched her cheek.

"Hi, little darlin'. You doin' OK?"

"I'm … fine, thank you," a stunned Lefler said. For no reason that she could discern, she felt an almost primal urge to scream in ecstasy and faint.

You figure it out.

Favorite *Babylon 5* gag: I worked on a script which never got made for a variety of reasons — a script written with Bill Mumy for the fifth season of *B5*. Consequently, the following exchange will never get on the air. If I have to explain it to you, it simply won't be funny, so read it. If you're a *B5* fan, you'll get it, and if you're not, you won't.

Interior corridor — Londo, Garibaldi: *A somewhat puzzled Londo is being briskly paced by Garibaldi.*

Londo: But I don't understand? Why do you want me to say it?

Garibaldi: I just … I want to hear it, Londo. Just once.

Londo: Just once.

Garibaldi: I'll die happy, I swear.

Londo: Very well. (*Sighs, doesn't understand*) Moose and squirrel. All right? Moose and squirrel. Are you satisfied, Mr. Garibaldi?

Garibaldi: You've made my day.

Garibaldi walks off, chuckling. Londo shakes his head.

Londo: Humans.

Peter David, writer of stuff, can be written to at To Be Continued Inc., P.O. Box 239, Bayport, NY 11705.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

A. PAYMENT: Ads must be accompanied by payment. You may pay with a check, money order, or credit card.

B. CREDIT CARDS: We will accept the following credit cards: VISA, MasterCard, American Express, Novus.

C. DEADLINE: For all advertising is 4:00 p.m. each Tuesday, unless otherwise stated on deadline card.

D. TERMS: Cash with copy only. All advertisers must provide information for the confidential use of the publisher should questions arise.

E. CONTRACT RATES are available for 6, 13, 26, or 52 consecutive issues. Contract rates apply to fulfillment of contract items. Cancellation of a contract by the advertiser allows the publisher to reinvoice covered ads at the earned rate. This rate card is a part of the advertising contract.

F. MINORS are required to furnish a statement of responsibility from their parent or guardian before their advertising can be accepted.

G. ERRORS: Typewritten copy is recommended. The publisher is not responsible for errors resulting from long-hand or illegible copy, or changes submitted by telephone. The publisher's liability for any error shall not exceed the cost of the space occupied by that error.

H. LAYOUT and design services are provided by Krause Publications for advertisers who do not submit camera-ready copy. Due to the creative and subjective nature of these services, credit will not be allowed for conceptual variations.

I. GRADING: Items offered in any ad must be properly described as to condition, conforming to the standards set forth in Comics Buyer's Guide Price Guide. Advertisers may also exercise the option of grading offerings by applying a unique personal system, providing the standards applied are detailed in the ad to avoid confusion.

J. RETURN PRIVILEGE: Except as otherwise specified in any ad, an advertiser must accept the return of any merchandise postmarked within ten working days of its receipt by a customer.

K. P.O. BOX ADS are allowed, but the permanent home address, phone number and place of business of the advertiser must be filed with the publisher before advertisements may be printed.

L. SPECIAL PAGE POSITIONS are available at a premium, inquire for details.

M. ADVERTISING AGENCIES: There are no agency discounts.

N. CAMERA READY display ads qualify for a 15% discount. Copy must be ready for camera without additional paste-up or film work required. No charge for reproductions, enlargements or mail response key change. Classified Display, Comics Trader, Collector's Showcase and classified word ads do not qualify for the camera ready discount.

O. SPACE RESERVATIONS available for camera ready ads only. Must be made prior to ad deadline. Reserved space must be paid for even if ad does not arrive on time.

P. PRE-PRINTED INSERTS are available in Comics Buyer's Guide. Inquire for additional information and technical specifications.

Q. CIRCULATION is throughout the United States and Canada by subscription and single copy sales by agents in shops and other outlets.

R. PROOF OF PUBLICATION: Tear sheets of new display ads are mailed to those advertisers requesting this service. We regret we cannot provide this service to classified advertisers.

S. NOTE: All advertising orders are accepted subject to the terms and provisions of the current rate card. Krause Publications, Inc. reserves the right to decline advertising or suspend advertising privileges for such periods of time as in its discretion it sees fit, for any reason, whatsoever, irrespective of the validity of the reasons for such declination or suspension. The forwarding of an order is construed as acceptance of all rates and conditions in effect at the time the advertising is submitted. The publisher will not be bound by any conditions, printed or otherwise, appearing on any order for advertising space, billing instructions or copy instructions which conflict with its policies. Advertisers and advertising agencies assume liability for all content (including text representation and illustrations) of advertisements printed, and also assumes responsibility of any claims arising therefrom made against the publisher. It is the advertiser's or agency's responsibility to obtain appropriate releases on any item or individual pictured in their advertising. All agreements are subject to strikes, accidents, acts of God, or other contingencies beyond the publisher's control. The publisher reserves the right to edit any advertising copy to conform with its standard advertising policies, and to reject any ad which in its opinion is unethical or objectional for any reason.

SEND ADS AND PAYMENT TO:
COMICS BUYER'S GUIDE
Advertising
700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990

COMICS BUYER'S GUIDE
700 East State Street
Iola, Wisconsin 54990
(715) 445-2214
FAX#(715) 445-4087
TELEX#55-6461
(Krause Publ.)

Advertising Deadlines

AD DEADLINE	NO.	ISSUE	AD DEADLINE	NO.	ISSUE
Tues., June 16, 1998	1286	July 10, 1998	Tues., July 7, 1998	1289	July 31, 1998
Tues., June 23, 1998	1287	July 17, 1998	Tues., July 14, 1998	1290	Aug. 7, 1998
Mon., June 29, 1998	1288	July 24, 1998	Tues., July 21, 1998	1291	Aug. 14, 1998

DISPLAY ADVERTISING

(Cost per ad per issue: ads must run consecutively)

AD SIZE	1 ISSUE	6 ISSUES	13 ISSUES	26 ISSUES	52 ISSUES
A. 2 col. x 2-5/8" (4-7/8" x 2-5/8")	$100.00	$98.00	$96.00	$92.00	$84.00
B. 2 col. x 5-3/8" (4-7/8" x 5-3/8") or 4 col. x 2-5/8" (10" x 2-5/8")	$189.00	$185.00	$181.00	$174.00	$159.00
C. 2 col. x 11" (4-7/8" x 11") or 4 col. x 5-3/8" (10" x 5-3/8")	$294.00	$288.00	$282.00	$270.00	$247.00
D. 4 col. x 11" (10" x 11")	$530.00	$519.00	$509.00	$488.00	$445.00

CLASSIFIED DISPLAY

(Cost per ad: ads must run consecutively to earn contract discounts.)

AD SIZE	1 ISSUE	6 ISSUES	13 ISSUES	26 ISSUES	52 ISSUES
1. 1 col. x 1" (2-1/4" x 1")	$20.00	$19.50	$19.00	$18.00	$17.00
2. 1 col. x 2" (2-1/4" x 2")	$29.50	$29.00	$28.00	$27.00	$25.00
3. 1 col. x 3" (2-1/4" x 3")	$38.00	$37.00	$36.00	$35.00	$32.00

CLASSIFIED WORD ADS:

Our "Classified" ads are heavily read. Base rates are 40¢ per word with discounts for multiple issues. Please print and punctuate - we are not responsible for error due to long-hand and illegible copy. For more information see classified ad form in the classified section. Credit card customers can place word ads TOLL FREE - Call 1-800-942-0673. (This is for classified word ads only.)

UNIT ADVERTISING:

A. COLLECTORS SHOWCASE

Collectors Showcase Units are 3-1/4" wide x 1-5/8" high and can be bought in multiples. All typesetting is done by Krause Publications and is included in the price.

Cost per ad per issue: ads must run consecutively to earn contract discounts

1 Issue	6 Issues	13 Issues	26 Issues	52 Issues
$30.00	$29.00	$28.00	$27.00	$25.00

B. COMICS TRADER ADS

"No-frills" advertising with a price to match. Design your own ad - just type your ad clearly on an 8-1/2"w x 8-1/2"h sheet of paper. We will reduce your Trader ad to fit a 1/9 page space (3-1/4"w x 3-1/4"h). Super Traders should be typed on an 8-1/2"w x 8-1/2"h sheet of paper which will be reduced to fit a 5" x 5" space.

Regular Trader

(Cost per ad per issue: ads must run consecutively to earn contract discounts. Limit 6 Trader spaces per page per advertiser.)

1 Issue	6 Issues	13 Issues	26 Issues	52 Issues
$41.00	$40.00	$39.00	$38.00	$34.00

Super Trader

(Cost per ad per issue: ads must run consecutively to earn contract discounts. Limit 2 Super Trader spaces per advertiser per page.)

1 Issue	6 Issues	13 Issues	26 Issues	52 Issues
$110.00	$108.00	$106.00	$101.00	$92.00

C. COMICS STRIPS

Comics Strip ads are 10"w x 2⅝"h and are reserved for publishers promoting their comic titles.

1 Issue	4 Issues
$85.00	$300.00

D. RETAILER DIRECTORY ..... $3.50 per issue

Leads fans to your cash register! List your store name, address, phone number and 15 words of description. Sold in 26 and 52 week increments. It's targeted more to the comics buff than the yellow pages - and it's more cost effective. If you sell COMICS BUYER'S GUIDE in your store, we will publish your listing in bold face type at no extra charge.

ADVERTISING REQUIREMENTS

A completed reference form must be in our confidential files before any buy, sell or trade ad can be placed. See below. Minors are required to furnish a statement of responsibility from their parents or guardian before their advertising can be accepted.

Payment must accompany an advertisement and must be in the form of a personal check drawn on U.S., Canadian or Mexican bank; money orders; international money orders; cashier's checks; or with your VISA, MasterCard, American Express or NOVUS credit card. Send your credit card number, expiration date, and the name on the card, along with permission to charge the card for your ad, with your advertising copy.

REFERENCE FORM

COMPANY NAME _____
STREET ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____
PHONE NO. _____
SOCIAL SECURITY # _____
TYPE OF BUSINESS _____
☐ CORPORATION
☐ CO PARTNERSHIP ☐ LIMITED PARTNERSHIP
NO. OF YEARS ESTABLISHED _____ ☐ INDIVIDUAL PROPRIETOR

PRINCIPAL OWNERS - STOCKHOLDERS - PARTNERS - OFFICERS OF COMPANY

NAME _____
MAILING ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____
TITLE _____

TRADE REFERENCES

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____
PHONE _____

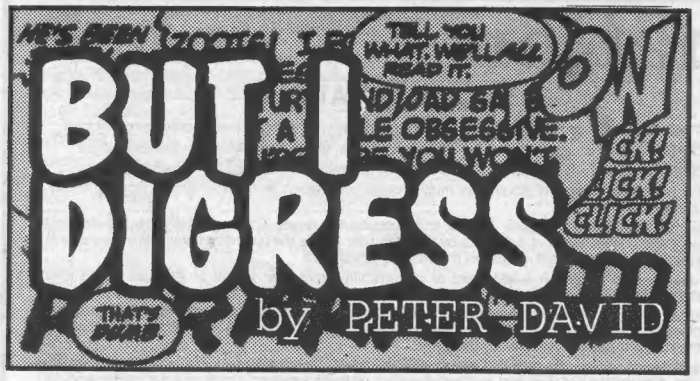
BANK REFERENCE

BANK NAME _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____
PHONE _____
BANKING OFFICIAL _____

I (we) hereby authorize Krause Publications and/or its credit agent to investigate the references herein or statements or other data obtained from me or any other person pertaining to my credit and financial responsibility. I understand that it is Krause Publications' policy to require cash in advance for all advertising until credit has been established or approved.

Further, I (we), the undersigned, will be held personally responsible and promise to pay promptly within 15 days of the billing date for all advertising debts incurred by the above named business and owing to Krause Publications.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE(S) OF APPLICANT(S). _____



I was speaking last week of my favorite lost gags. These were concepts, notions, dialogue, or whatever that I came up with which, for whatever reasons, were overruled and tossed.

Favorite Lost *Star Trek* Subplot: I do a series called *The New Frontier* for Pocket Books. We launched it last summer, and Paramount let the first four books sail through with virtually no changes. The books did very well. Naturally, that meant that when books #5 and #6 showed up, it was time to start gutting stuff.

At one point First Officer Elizabeth Shelby — even though she's suffering from a blow to the head — takes command of the starship *Excalibur* in an emergency situation while Captain Calhoun's gone and the vessel's under attack. She's barely conscious, yet she manages to defeat their attackers with ingenuity and daredevil stunts. With the danger past, she suddenly points wide-eyed and says, "Look!"

"What?" asks the science officer.

"Bunnies!" says a gleeful Shelby, and she passes out.

This was an in-joke reference to *Space Cases*, actually, but Paramount didn't realize that. It just wouldn't let us do it. No reason. It just wouldn't. And, since the book was on an extremely tight deadline, entire sequences were changed or cut without my input. In this case, Shelby's delirious comment of "Bunnies!" was changed to "Colors!" — which isn't especially funny.

It also meant that the entire following sequence was lost. To set it up: With things back to normal, Shelby is now released from sickbay. She is expecting the crew to rib her a bit about the "bunnies" comment. But when she gets to the bridge, her presence is acknowledged in a casual, but not particularly emotional, way. She realizes that she's actually disappointed. Picking up on the deleted material:

And yet ... she was lonely.

She hated to admit it, but there it was. She had chosen a certain way in which she desired to be regarded, and the fact was, her return to the bridge had been the test of that. If they'd teased her or lampooned her, it would have been roundly insulting, and she would have been well within her rights to light into anyone who treated her in such a disrespectful manner. But instead they treated her with the esteem to which she was entitled. It should have made her feel good about herself, but instead she couldn't help but feel as if it just underscored her outsider status ... the status that she had been boasting to Lefler of just a little earlier.

At that moment, Kebron suddenly said, "Captain ... vessel approaching, 229 Mark 3."

"Identification on it?"

"No known configuration."

"Bridge to Si Cwan," Calhoun said promptly. "Ambassador, your presence is requested, as soon as possible if not sooner."

"Got them on screen, sir," Lefler reported.

"Full magnification."

Even with the screens on full power, it was difficult to discern much. The ship was still too far away for full details to be made out. "Mr. Kebron," Shelby now spoke up, "put long range sensor results up on the screen as well.

Immediately an outline of the unknown vessel appeared in the upper left hand of the screen. It was constructed with elaborate sweeps and curves, and it had an almost organic look to it. "I may be way off base on this," Shelby said slowly, "but it looks like some sort of creature of prey, poised to spring."

"I was just noticing the same thing," Calhoun said grimly. "Not exactly a positive sign when it comes to hoping for a peaceful first contact."

The turbolift opened and Si Cwan emerged. Immediately discerning the situation, he studied the screen. He frowned in a way that Shelby had never seen before. "I don't know them," he said finally.

Shelby half turned in her chair as she looked around at him. Calhoun did likewise. "You don't know them?" said a surprised Shelby. "*You* don't? I thought you knew everyone in all of Thallonian space. That is why you're aboard this vessel, is it not?"

"I feel the barb of your devastating sting, Commander," Si Cwan said dryly. "I simply told you that no one knows Thallonian space better than I. That remains true. But I never said there was nothing I do not know. Merely that I knew more than you."

"We can sort this out later," said a terse Calhoun. "Kebron, energy readings off her?"

"They appear to be running with shields down. No indication of weapons targeted, locked, or hot."

"That's something, at least," observed Shelby.

"Mr. McHenry," said Calhoun, "take us out of orbit, move to intercept. Mr. Lefler, take us to yellow alert. Kebron, shields up. Do not bring weapons on line. Let's appear cautious but not belligerent."

His orders were immediately carried out, and Shelby tensed in her chair. Was this the Redeemers once more, coming back for another round after their war vessel had been destroyed? Was it some new, unknown opponent?

"Commander, would you care to hail them?"

She turned to Calhoun. "Me?"

"I will if you don't desire to," he said easily. "However, this is a first contact scenario. Thought I'd let you do the honors. As far as I'm concerned, you did write the book on first contact protocol back in the Academy."

"Why, thank you, Captain," she said, appreciating his gracious offer. "Mr. Kebron, hail on all frequencies."

"Hailing, sir ... no response so far, and they are continuing approach."

The ship was drawing closer, the details of the ship becoming more discernible to the naked eye. It was a deep rust color, and she had been right...it did indeed look like some sort of predator ready to strike. Shelby couldn't help but wonder whether that was a bad sign.

"They're slowing," Lefler informed them.

Almost at the same time, Kebron said, "Sir ... we're getting a reply."

Shelby rose and straightened her jacket. "Put them on screen, Lieutenant," she said confidently.

The image of the planet Zondar vanished to be replaced by the view of the interior of the alien bridge.

Shelby's eyes went wide. She couldn't quite believe what she was seeing.

It looked remarkably like the bridge of the *Excalibur*, except that the bulkheads looked like dirt walls. The floor was covered with a thick thatching of branches, dirt, and pebbles. The individual who was facing her, and apparently the commanding officer of the vessel, was quite short ... no more than two feet high measuring from his toes to the tip of his little ears. His eyes were pink, and his little snout was white and twitching in a manner that was most likely a means of greeting. He was wearing a uniform that looked vaguely like that of Starfleet, but as she could see by other members of the alien crew moving about in the background, they were specially tailored to allow for their adorable little fuzzy tails. And there were, indeed, a hell of a lot of them ... nearly two dozen, as far as Shelby could see.

Shelby tried to make words come out but she couldn't manage it. She looked to Calhoun, who was resolutely staring at the screen as if there was nothing unusual there. Everyone else was keeping an admirable deadpan as well, except for Lefler who was clearly fighting desperately to maintain a straight face.

It was a bridge full of bunnies. Uniform-clad, multi-colored, space-going bunnies. She now realized that the ship was, in fact, crafted to look like a rabbit poised and ready to strike fear into the hearts of its enemies.

"I bring you greetings," said the rabbit-in-command, "I am Captain Binky from the U.S.S. *Hutch*, a ship representing the UFP ... United Furry Persons."

"What the hell?" whispered Shelby, but she knew even as she asked.

"We seek Commander Shelby," continued Captain Binky. "Would you be her?"

She put her fingers to her temples, shaking her head, unable to believe it. Very quickly, Calhoun said, "This is her, yes."

"We have sought you out, Commander, for word of you has reached all the way to the outermost reaches of the United Furry Persons, and the *Hutch* was dispensed with the purpose of contacting you and paying you homage." His ears were standing at full attention, and the other members of his crew were assembling behind him. "It is our understanding that you acted above and beyond the call of duty, Commander. That you were sick, injured, operating at far below your normal capacity. By rights, you should have remained in sickbay. However, so dedicated an officer are you, that at a time of crisis you put aside your discomfort and injury and, instead, forced yourself up to the bridge and took command through sheer effort of will. Once there, you devised a strategy that saved your crew and ship, thereby proving that you — functioning at less-than-your-best — are still more formidable and competent an officer than most officers who are operating at full capacity. In short, you are a superior officer in every sense of the word, displaying valor, dedication, and outstanding ingenuity. And so I, Captain Binky, and the valiant crew of the *Hutch*, have journeyed here this day to present you with the greatest gesture of honor that our people are capable of bestowing, namely ... *a 21 Bun' Salute!*"

"Oh, God, no," moaned Shelby.

Whereupon all 20 members of Captain Binky's crew, plus the captain himself, drew themselves up stiffly and snapped off a perfect military salute.

Shelby, of course, had long since realized that what she was looking at was a computer-generated animation — what would have been termed in the old days a "cartoon." She closed her eyes and wondered what in the world she had done to deserve this.

And then she heard something: the sound of slow, steady hands slamming together. She opened her eyes and turned to see Calhoun, standing, slowly applauding, and nodding his head in approval.

Then McHenry joined in, as did Lefler. When Kebron tried slamming his hands together, it created an almost deafening explosion of air, so he did it more gently. But ultimately, within seconds, everyone on the bridge was applauding Shelby and cheering. She looked at the screen and the bunnies were not only applauding, but they were stamping their feet rapidly created a concerted thumping noise.

And Shelby, to her own astonishment, started to laugh.

She couldn't help it. Not only had they gone to a tremendous amount of work to set the entire thing up, but she knew it wasn't being done for the purpose of lampoon or derision. Calhoun had orchestrated it, of that she was positive. He'd wanted to single her out for praise and commendation but, being the maverick and relatively bizarre person that he was, he couldn't find it within himself to do it in anything vaguely approaching a normal manner. And so he'd pulled this ... this craziness.

She continued to laugh, louder and with greater delight, because she felt genuinely touched and amused and even liked: An entire barrage of emotions, one tumbling over the next, and finally she took a deep bow as the bunnies chanted "Shel-*by*, Shel-*by*!" over and over again. Calhoun patted her on the back and she turned to him and said, "You're insane, do you know that?"

"That's what my first officer keeps telling me," he replied sanguinely.

"Hey! Commander!" called Captain Binky. All the rabbits had lined up and were now marching backward away from the screen. "Guess what we are!"

She knew they weren't really talking to "her." The animation wasn't interactive; it was all preset. Nonetheless, she said on cue, "What?"

(Continues on Page 64)

Boyette collection coming in August

By Michael Dean

Tales from the Edge is scheduled to release a special issue collecting work by **Pat Boyette** to raise funds to help cover Boyette's recent medical expenses. Called *The Nightstand Chillers* ($4.95, 68 pages), the August-shipping publication will include: stories by Boyette; an interview with the creator covering his careers in movies, comics, and television; and an introduction by **Alex Toth**.

Boyette's work has appeared in a number of supernatural anthology titles including Warren's *Vampirella*, *Creepy*, and *Eerie*, DC's *House of Mystery*, and Charlton's *Ghost Manor*, as well as the "Children of Doom" issue of *Charlton Premiere* #2 (Nov 67), scripted by Dennis O'Neil. He also drew such non-horror titles as *Blackhawk*, *Peacemaker*, and *Flash Gordon*. The interior of *The Nightstand Chillers* will be in black and white, as were many of Boyette's original stories.

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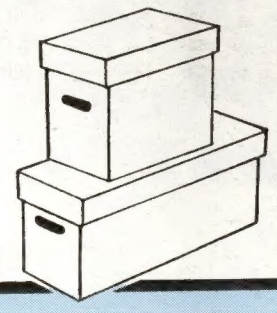

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